

Continually Improving Grounded Natural Language Understanding through Human-Robot Dialog



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Ph.D. Defense



Human-Robot Dialog



Human-Robot Dialog

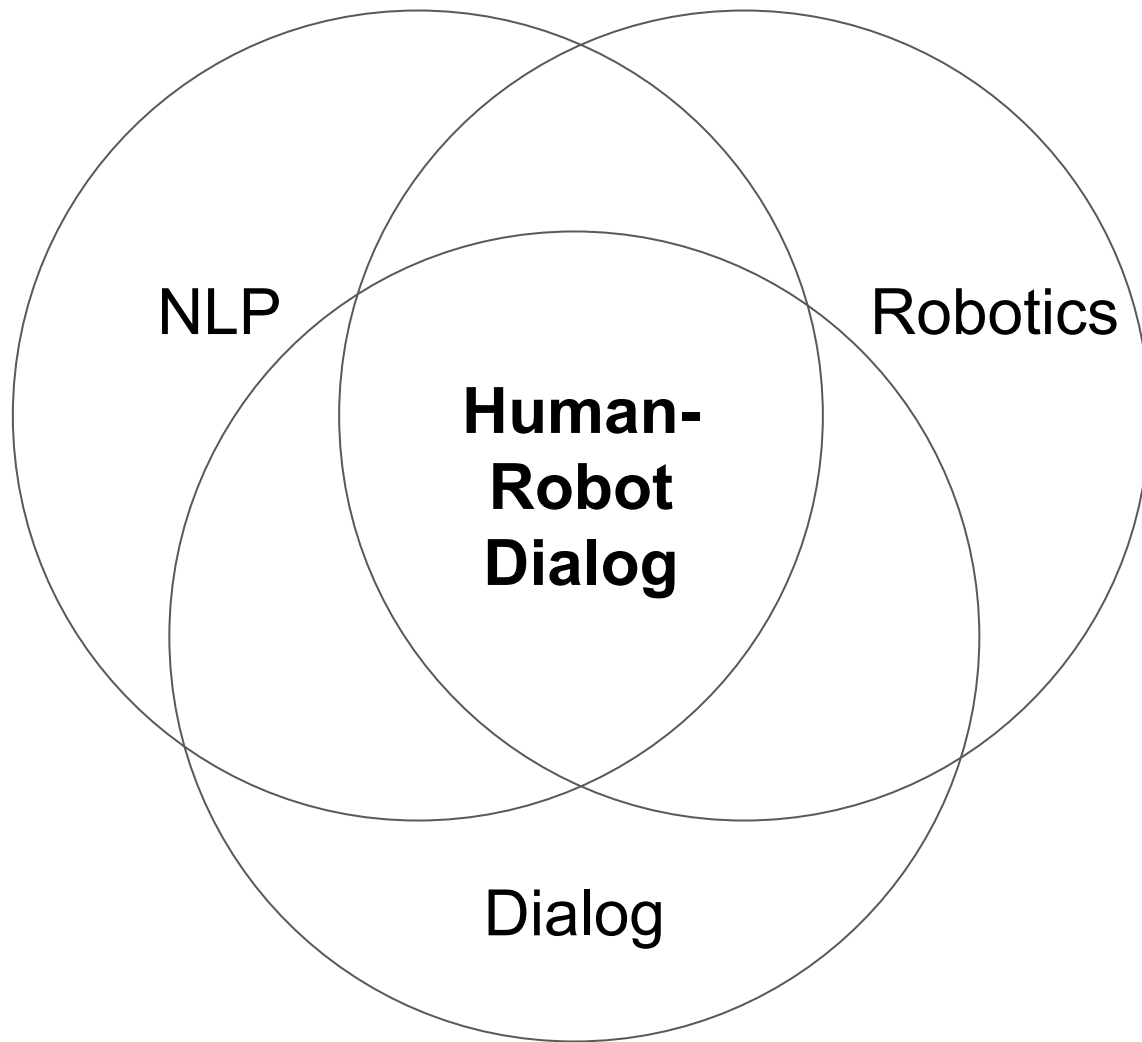


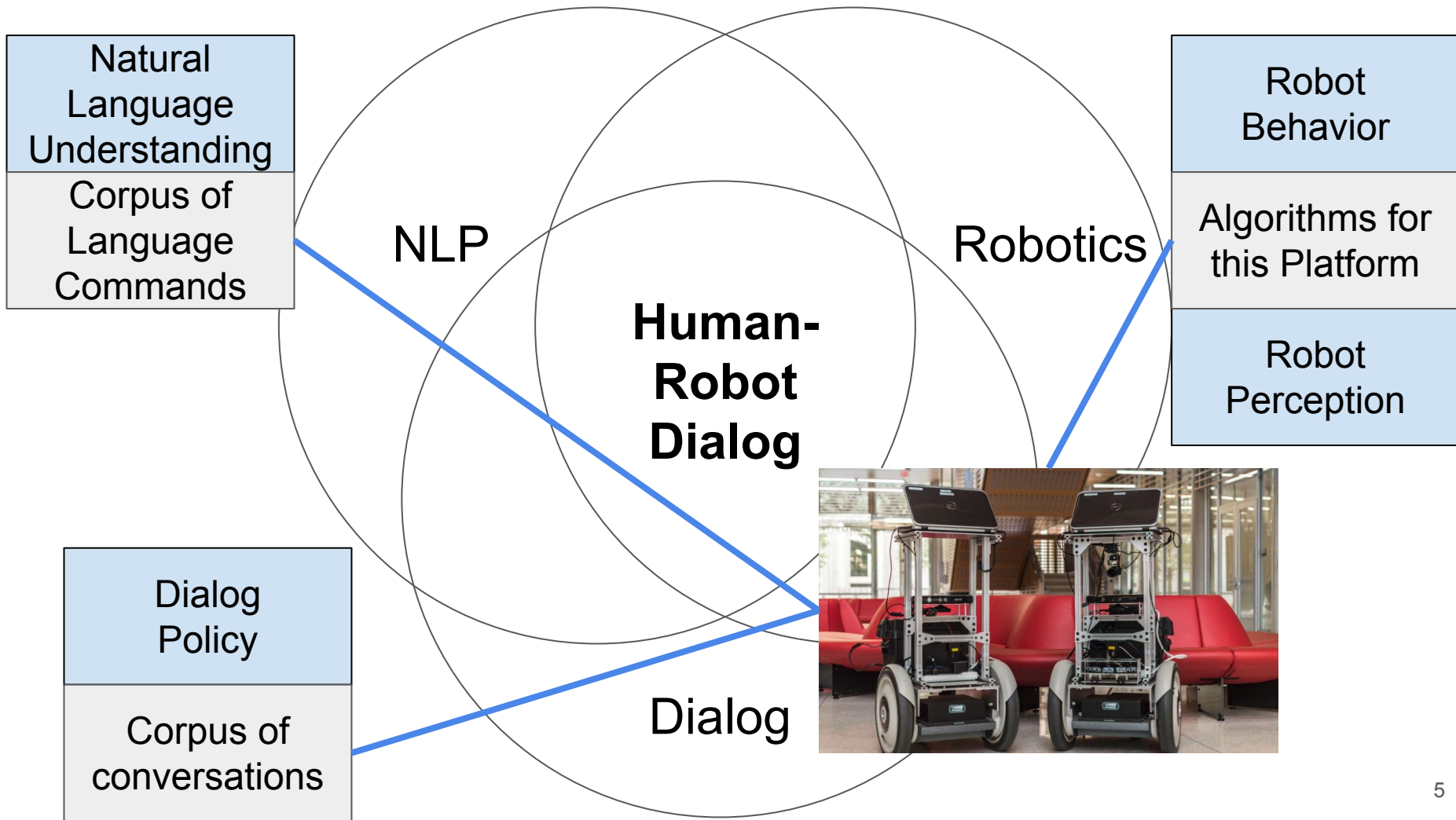
“alert me if her heart rate decreases”
“bring me his chart”
“go and get the family”
“scalpel”

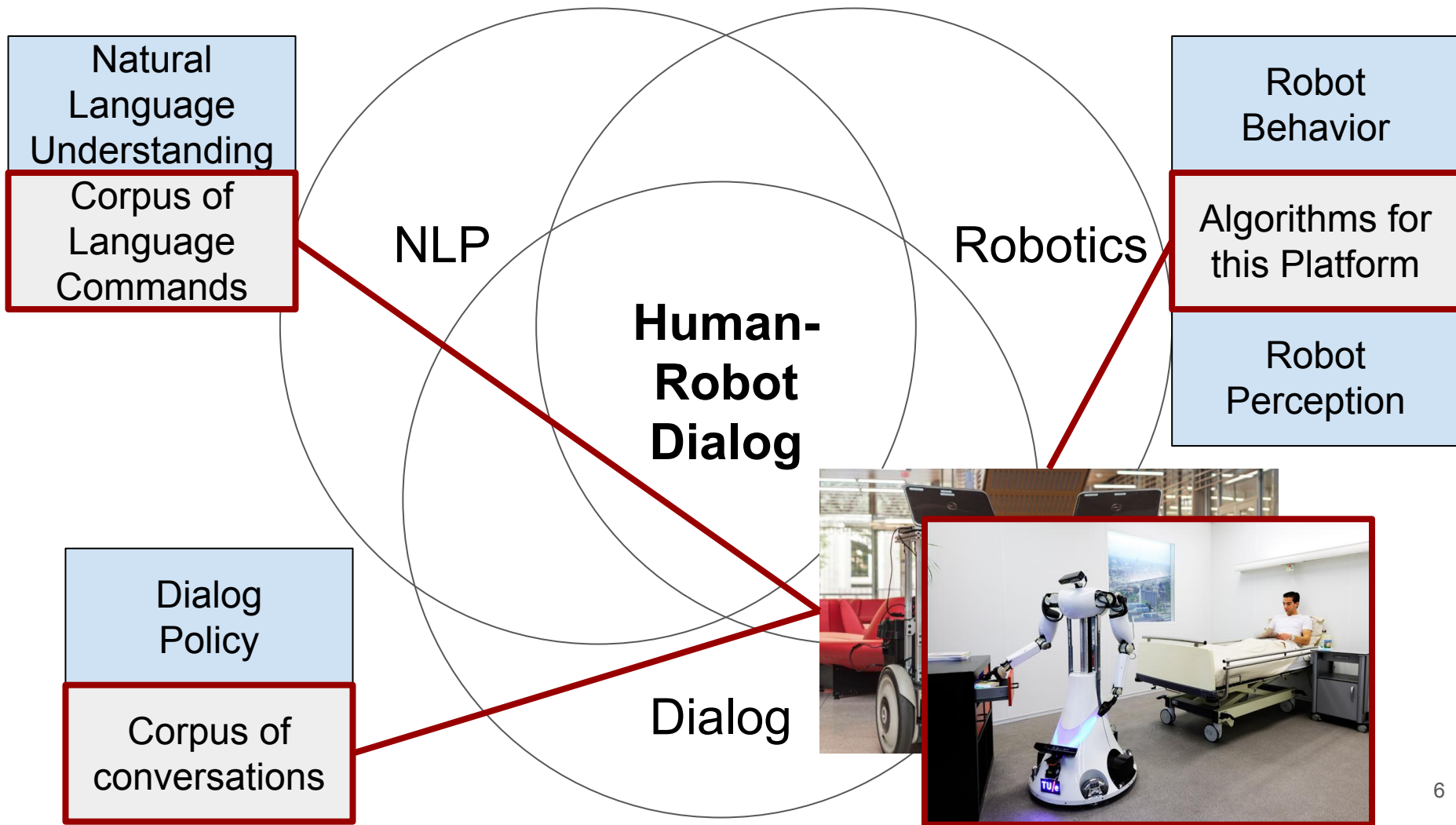


“text me when the speaker arrives”
“grab the empty, green bottle”
“lead him to alice’s office”
“get out of the way”





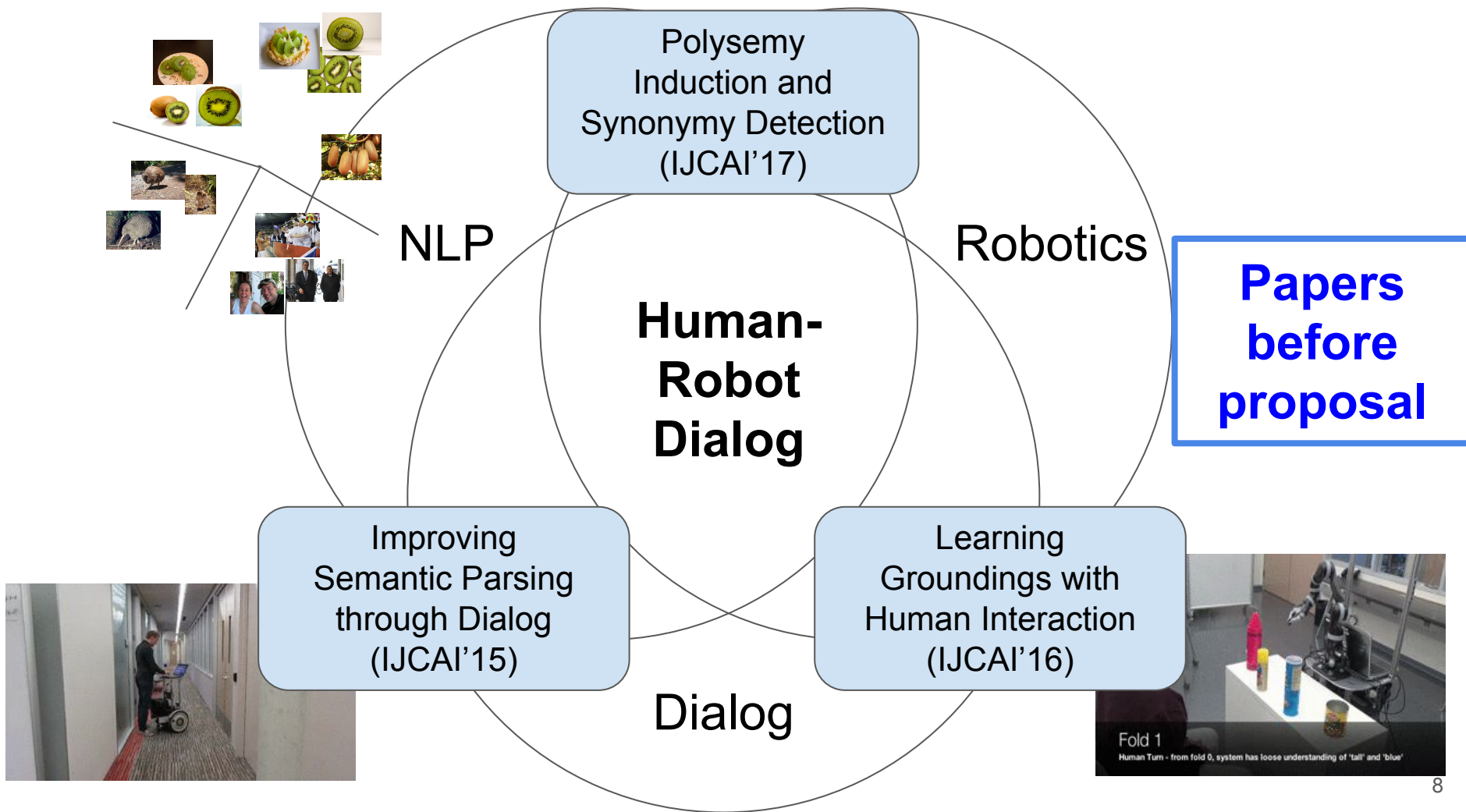


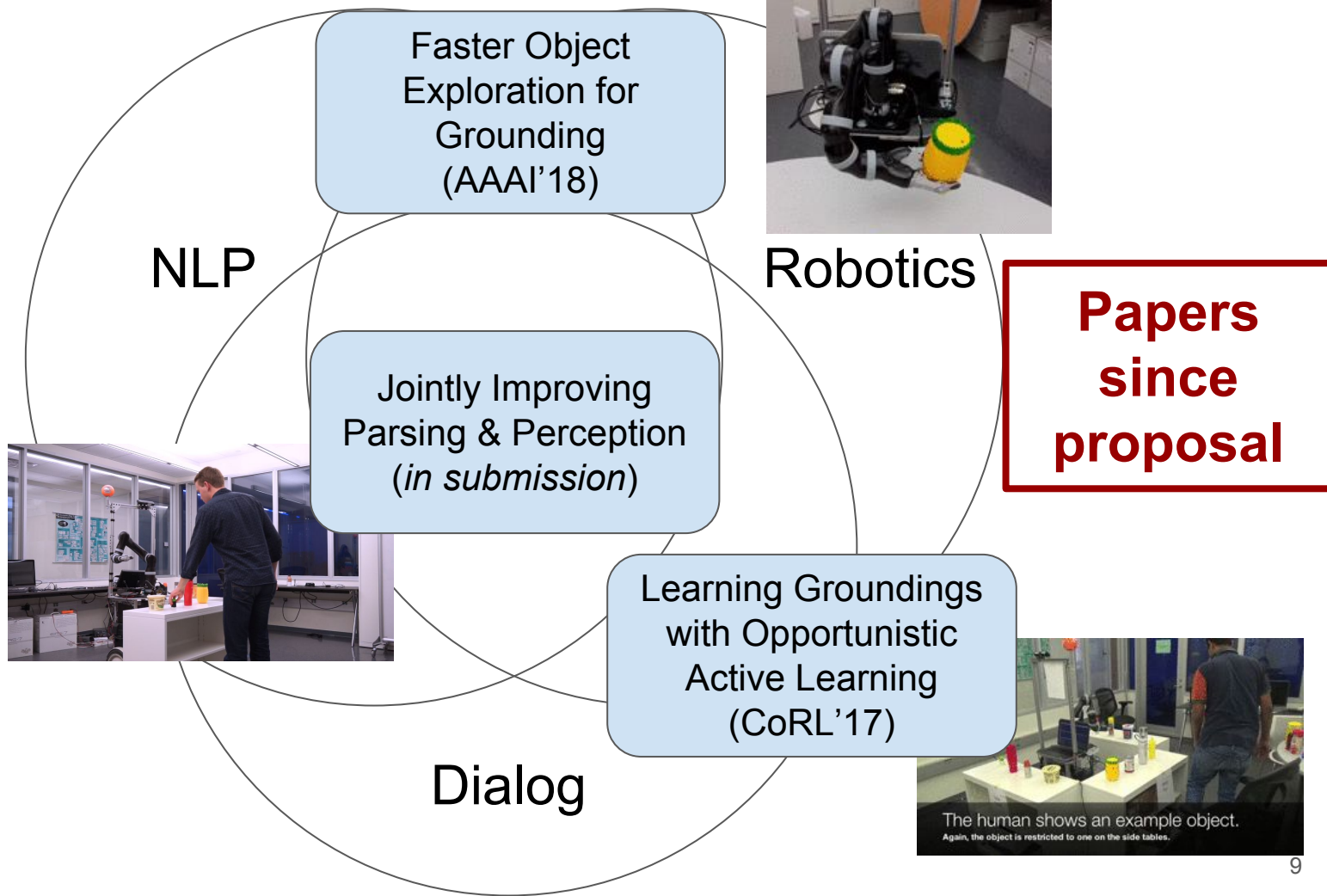


Robot Dialog has Multiple Low-Resource Problems

- **My work:**

- Develop algorithms for human-robot understanding that **overcome sparse training data.**
- Use dialog to **correctly perform** user requests and **better understand** future requests.







NLP



Robotics

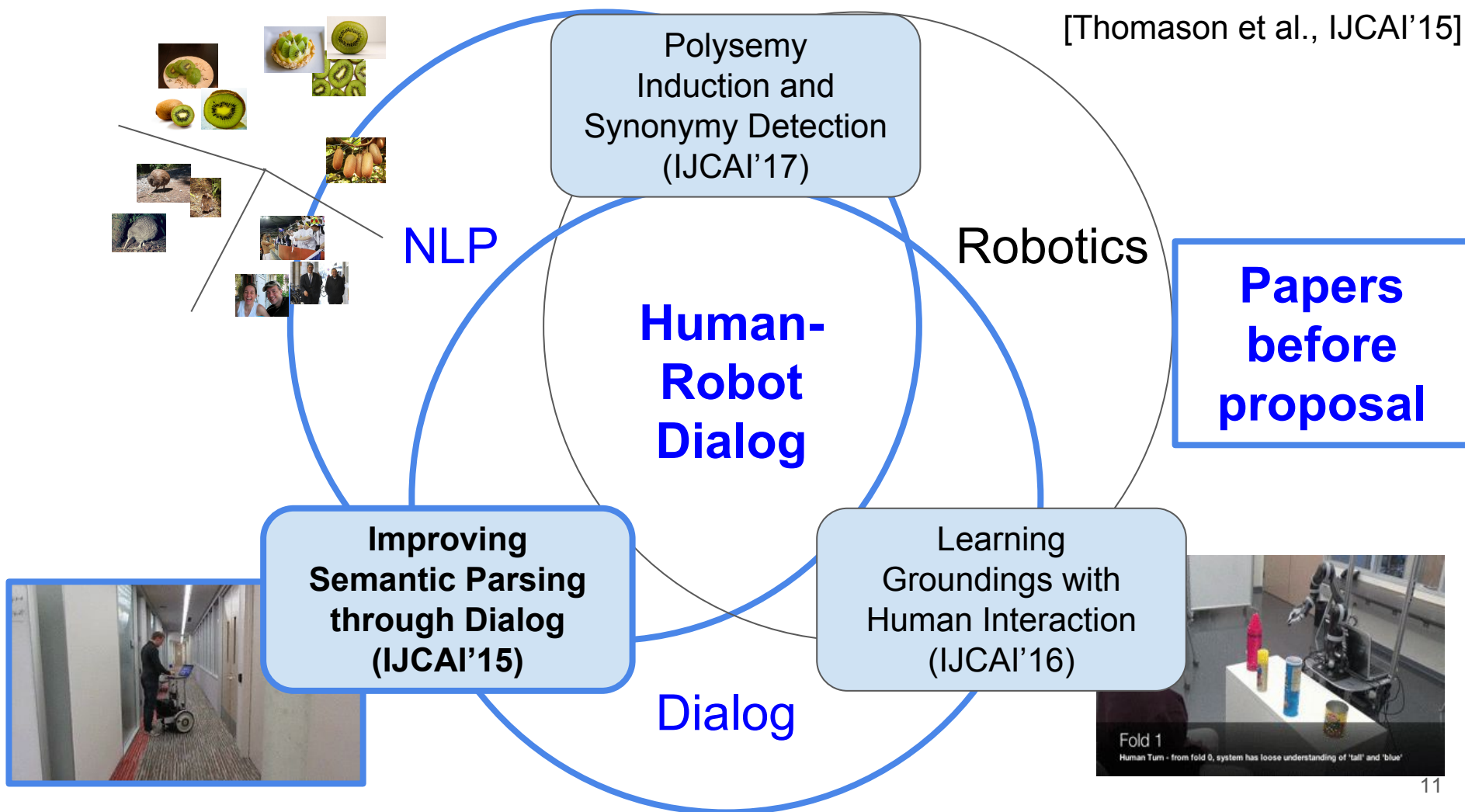
**Human-
Robot
Dialog**

**Next
Directions**

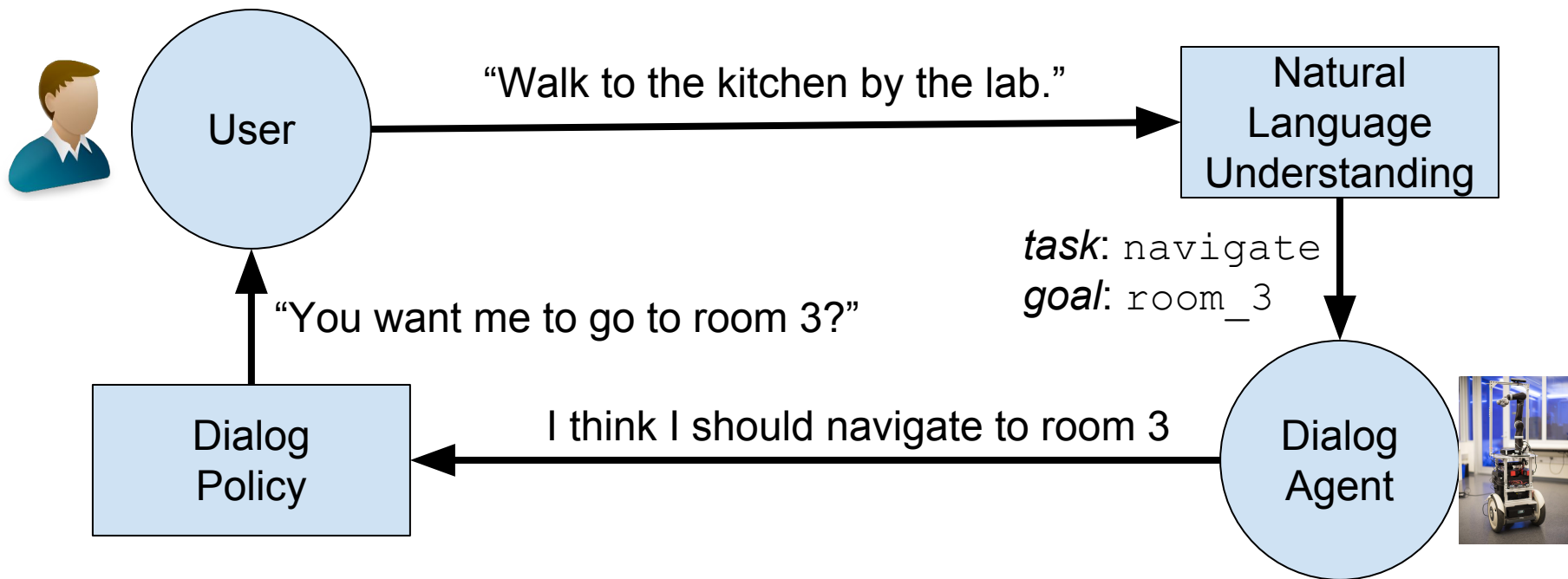


Dialog

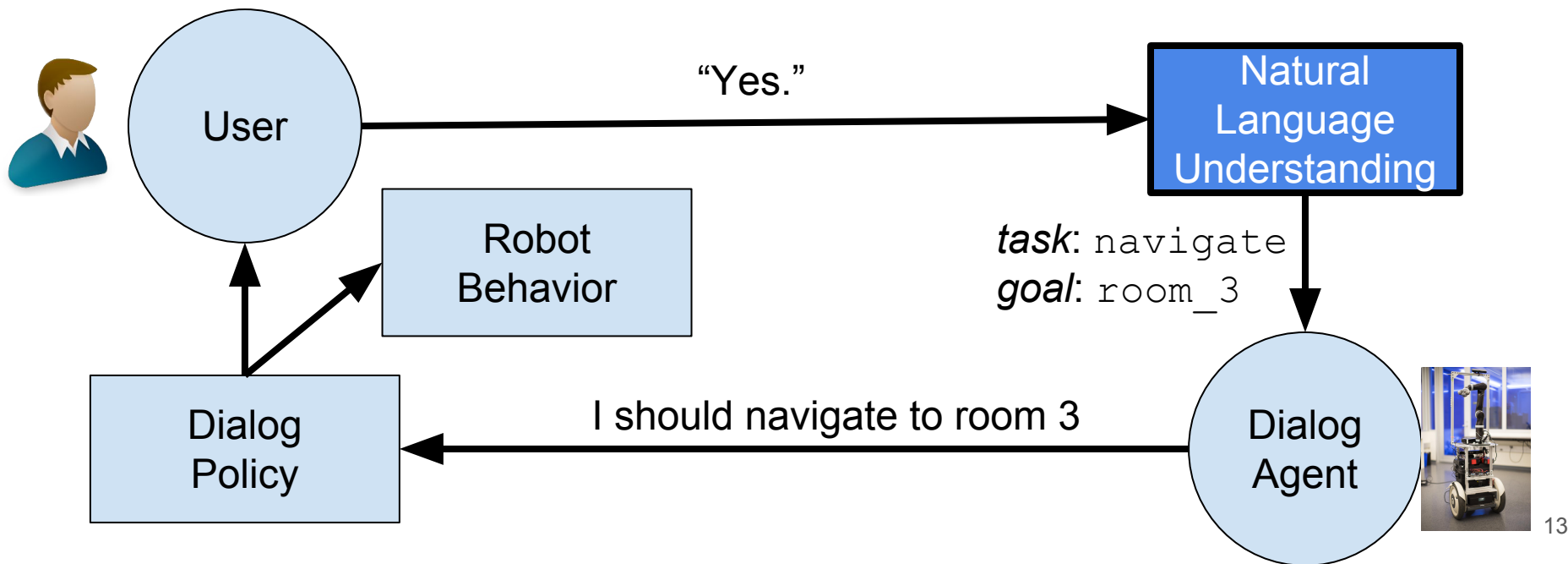




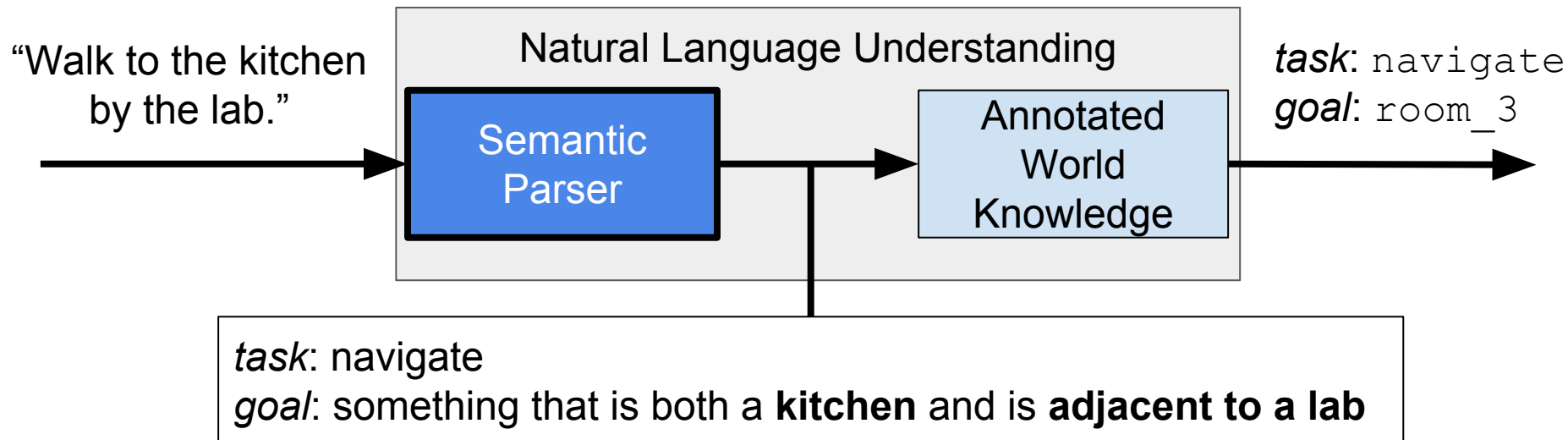
Dialog for Robots



Dialog for Robots



Natural Language Understanding



Semantic Parser

- The parser can be initialized with low annotator effort.
 - In our experiments, we annotate **five** sentences.
 - Satisfies the low-resource constraints of human-robot dialog.
- But, **more training data** will improve performance.

Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog

TASK TO COMPLETE

Dave Daniel wants the item in slot 5.

ROBOT	How can I help?
YOU	please bring the item in slot 5 to dave daniel
ROBOT	What should I bring to dave daniel?
YOU	a calander
ROBOT	I'm sorry, but I couldn't pinpoint what you meant by that.
ROBOT	What should I bring to dave daniel?
YOU	a day planner
ROBOT	I'm sorry, but I couldn't pinpoint what you meant by that.
ROBOT	What should I bring to dave daniel?
YOU	calendar
ROBOT	You want me to bring calendar to dave daniel?
YOU	yes
ROBOT	I thought so
ROBOT	Happy to help
YOU	<input type="text"/>

Final Task

Items available to robot:



Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog

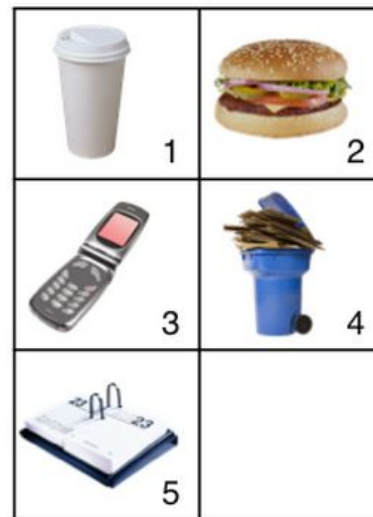
TASK TO COMPLETE

Dave Daniel wants the item in slot 5.

ROBOT: How can I help?
 YOU: please bring the item in slot 5 to dave daniel
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 YOU: a day planner
 ROBOT: I'm sorry, but I couldn't pinpoint what you meant by that.
 ROBOT: What should I bring to dave daniel?
 YOU: calendar
 ROBOT: You want me to bring calendar to dave daniel?
 YOU: yes
 ROBOT: I thought so
 ROBOT: Happy to help
 YOU:

Final Task

Items available to robot:



Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog

TASK TO COMPLETE

Dave Daniel wants the item in slot 5.

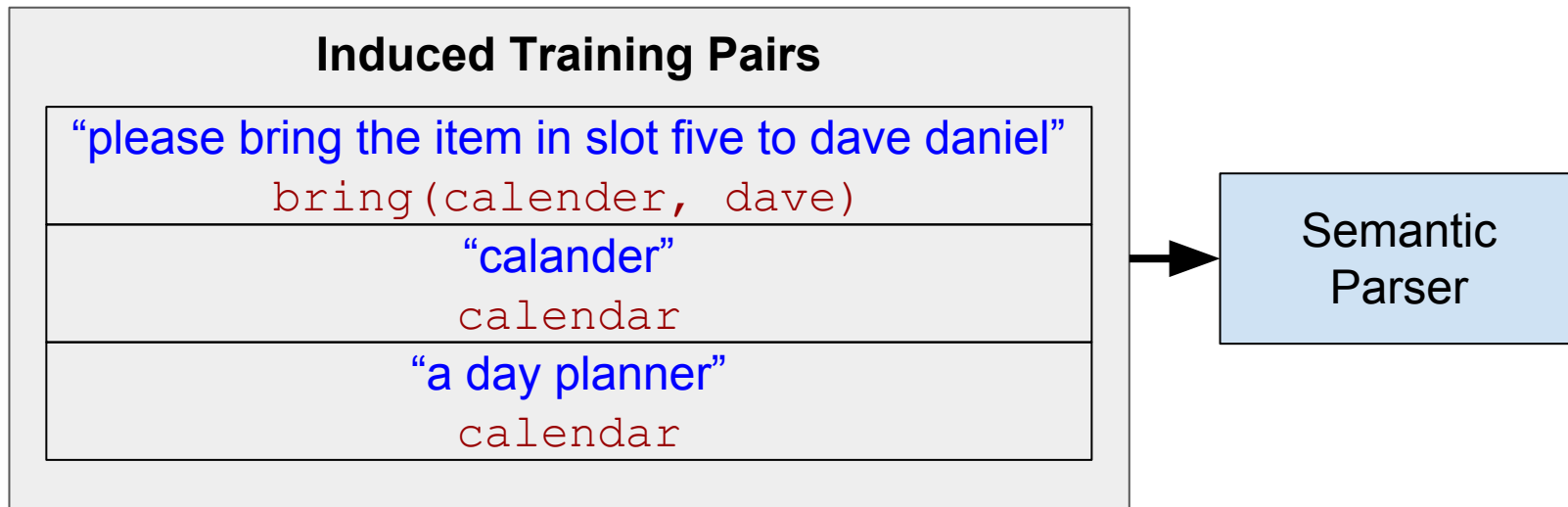
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ROBOT	I thought so
ROBOT	Happy to help
YOU	<input type="text"/>

Final Task

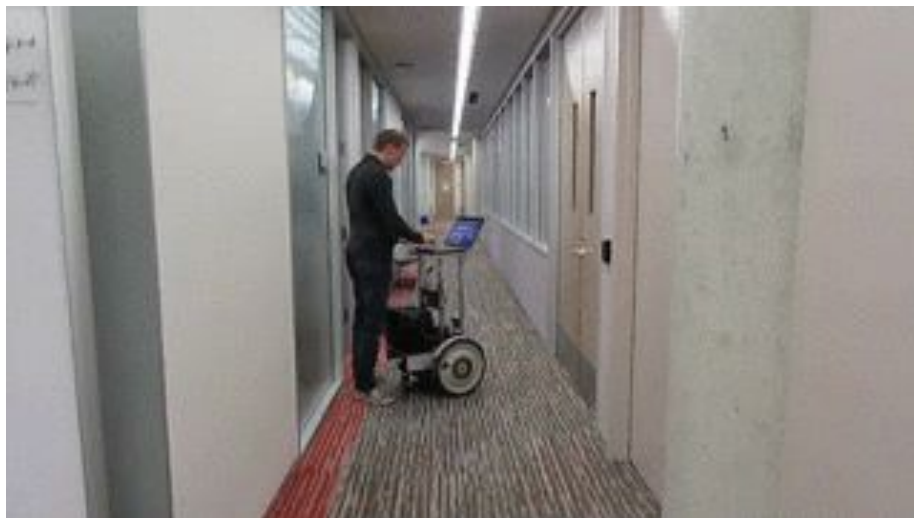
Items available to robot:



Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog



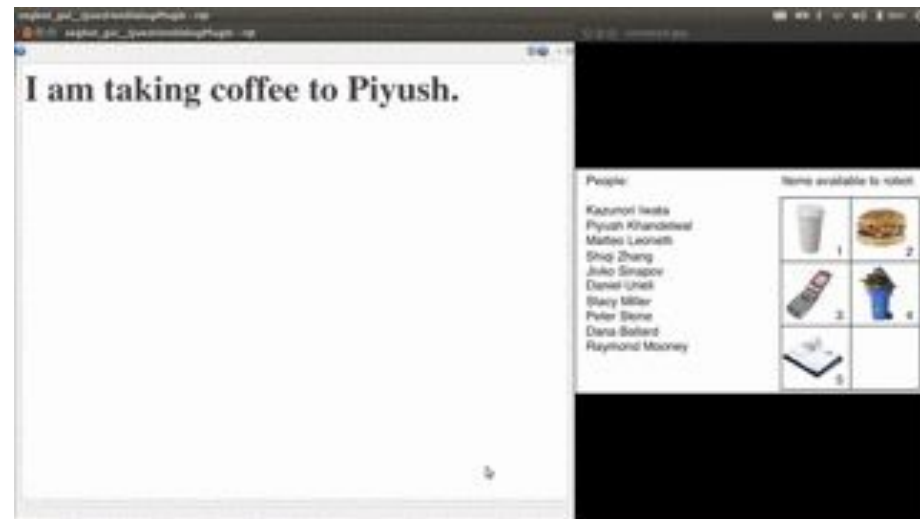
Demonstration



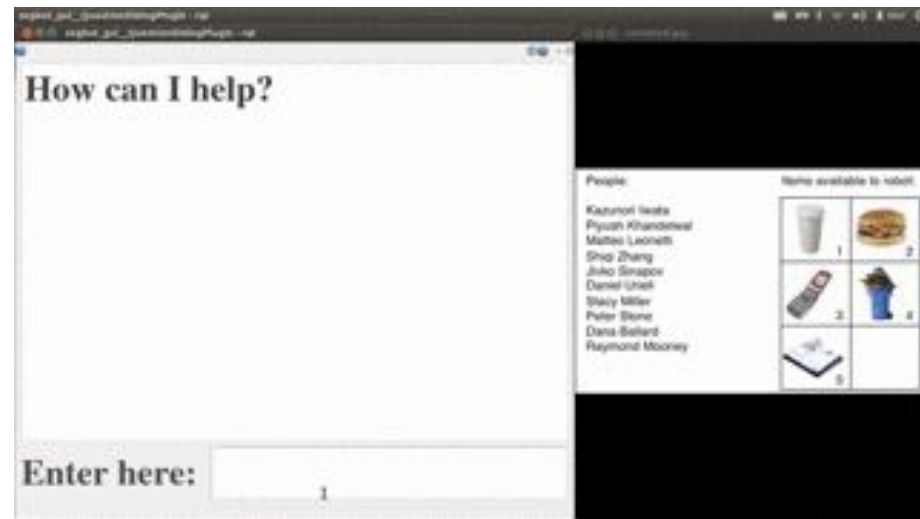
Demonstration



Demonstration



Demonstration



Dialogs that Clarify Meaning and Provide Supervision

Agent Belief <i>(task, goal, item, person)</i>	Request	Question
<i>(?, ?, ?, ?)</i>	<i>all</i>	“How can I help?” / “Can you reword your original request?”
<i>(navigate, ?, _, _)</i>	<i>goal</i>	“Where should I walk?”
<i>(deliver, _, ?, p)</i>	<i>item</i>	“What should I bring to p ?”
<i>(navigate, r, _, _)</i>	<i>confirm</i>	“You want me to walk to r ?”
...

Dialogs that Clarify Meaning and Provide Supervision

Agent Belief <i>(task, goal, item, person)</i>	Request	Question
(?, ?, ?, ?)	<i>all</i>	“How can I help?” / “Can you reword your original request?”
(navigate, ?, _, _)	<i>goal</i>	“Where should I walk?”
(deliver, _, ?, p)	<i>item</i>	“What should I bring to p?”
(navigate, r, _, _)	<i>confirm</i>	“You want me to walk to r?”
...

Dialogs that Clarify Meaning and Provide Supervision

TASK TO COMPLETE

Dave Daniel wants the item in slot 5.

ROBOT	How can I help?	Expect whole command
YOU	please bring the item in slot 5 to dave daniel	
ROBOT	What should I bring to dave daniel?	Expect <i>item</i>
YOU	a calander	
ROBOT	I'm sorry, but I couldn't pinpoint what you meant by that.	
ROBOT	What should I bring to dave daniel?	Expect <i>item</i>
YOU	a day planner	
ROBOT	I'm sorry, but I couldn't pinpoint what you meant by that.	
ROBOT	What should I bring to dave daniel?	Expect <i>item</i>
YOU	calendar	
ROBOT	You want me to bring calendar to dave daniel?	
YOU	yes	
ROBOT	I thought so	
ROBOT	Happy to help	
YOU	<input type="text"/>	

Final Task

task: deliver
item: calendar
person: dave_daniel

Technical Contributions

- Design a dialog policy that allows us to **pair human language with latent meaning representations.**
- Improve semantic parsing **given very little initial in-domain data.**

TASK TO COMPLETE

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YOU	yes
ROBOT	I thought so
ROBOT	Happy to help
YOU	
Final Task	

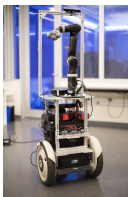
Experiments via Amazon Mechanical Turk

TASK TO COMPLETE

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YOU	calendar
ROBOT	You want me to bring calendar to dave daniel?
YOU	yes
ROBOT	I thought so
ROBOT	Happy to help
YOU	<input type="text"/>

Final Task



x 50



Induced
Training Pairs

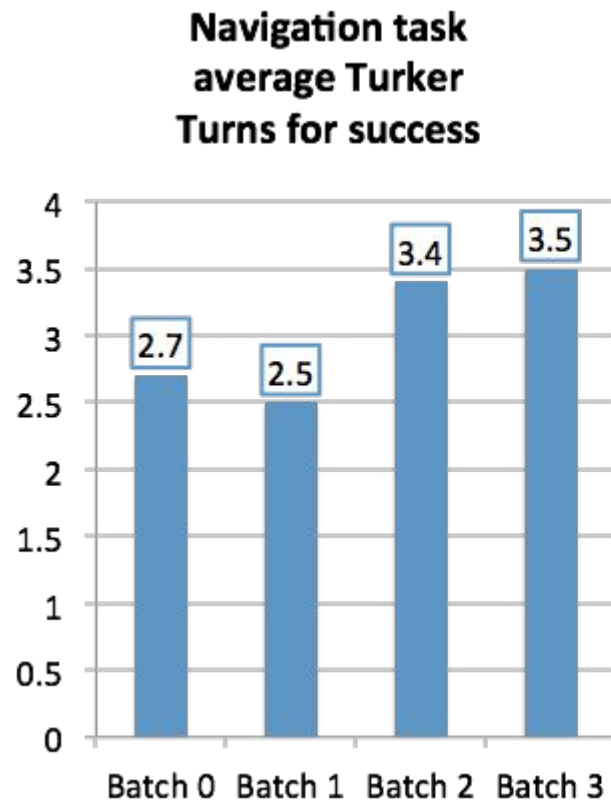


Semantic
Parser

x 4

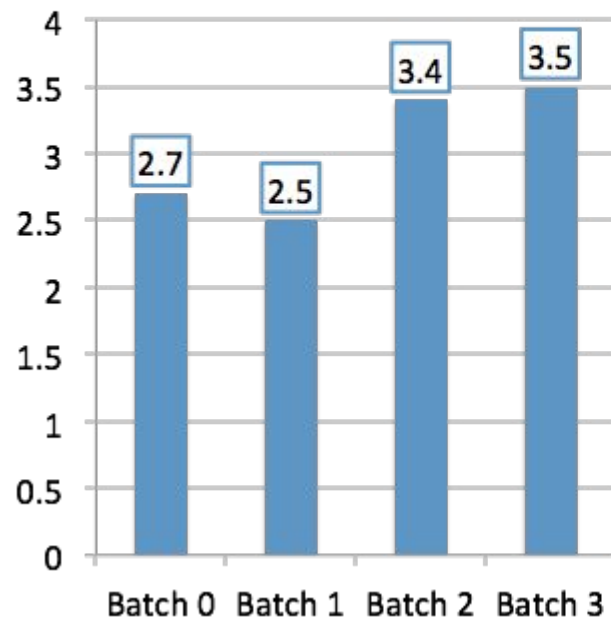


Navigation Dialog Turns



Navigation Dialog Turns

**Navigation task
average Turker
Turns for success**



Robot: How can I help?

Human: go

...

Human: go to dave daniel's office

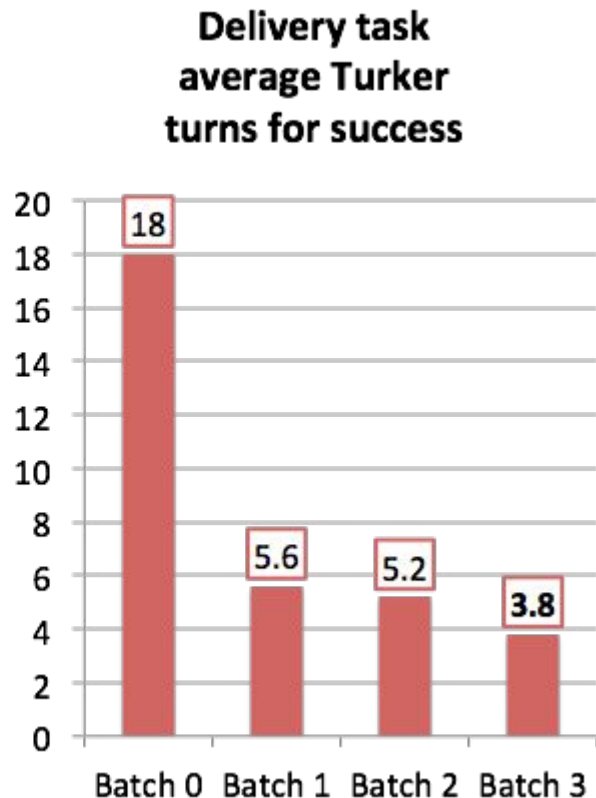
Induced Training Pairs

“go”

go(room_2)

...

Delivery Dialog Turns



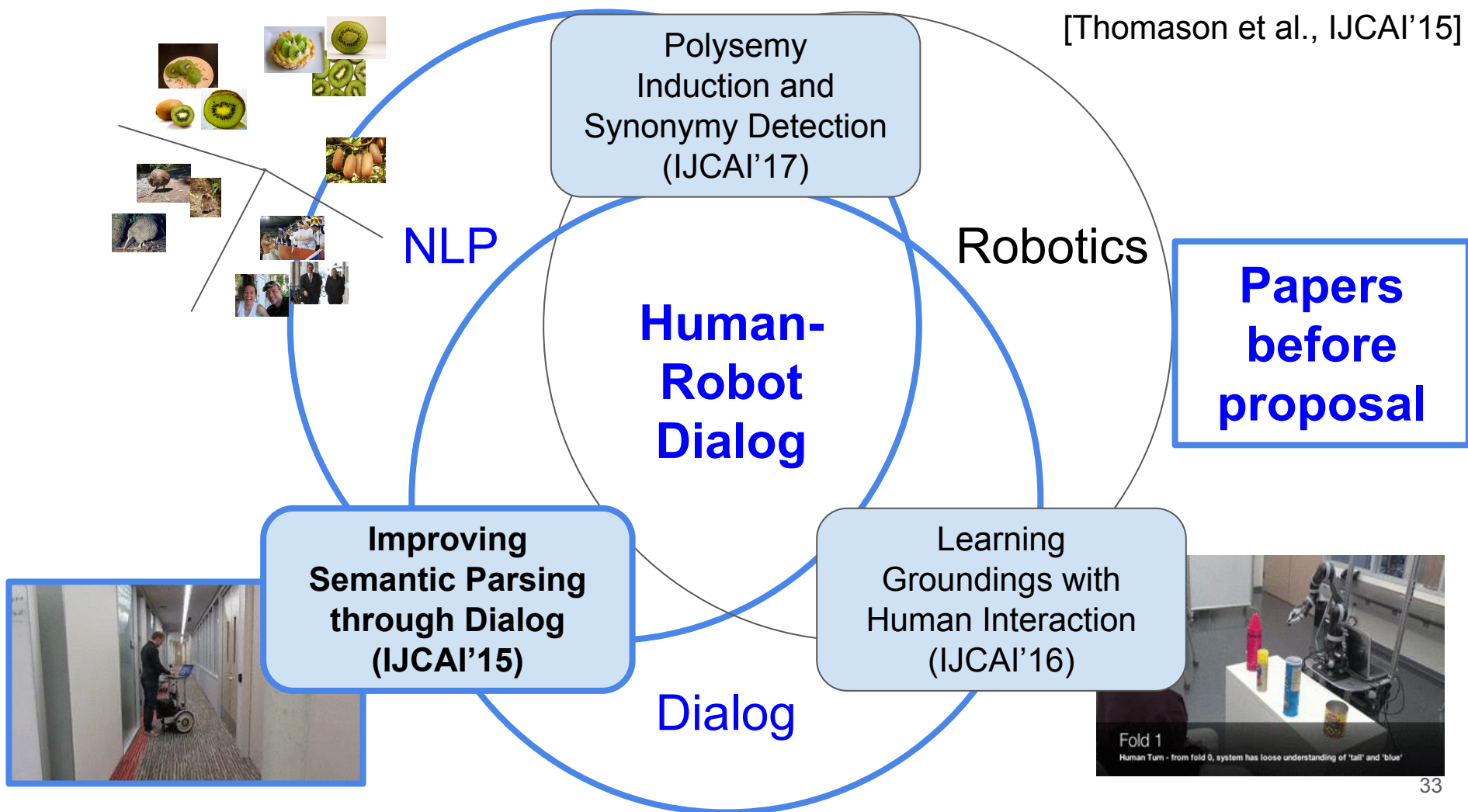
- Statistically significant decrease.
- More arguments:
harder to understand, so more to
gain from parser training.

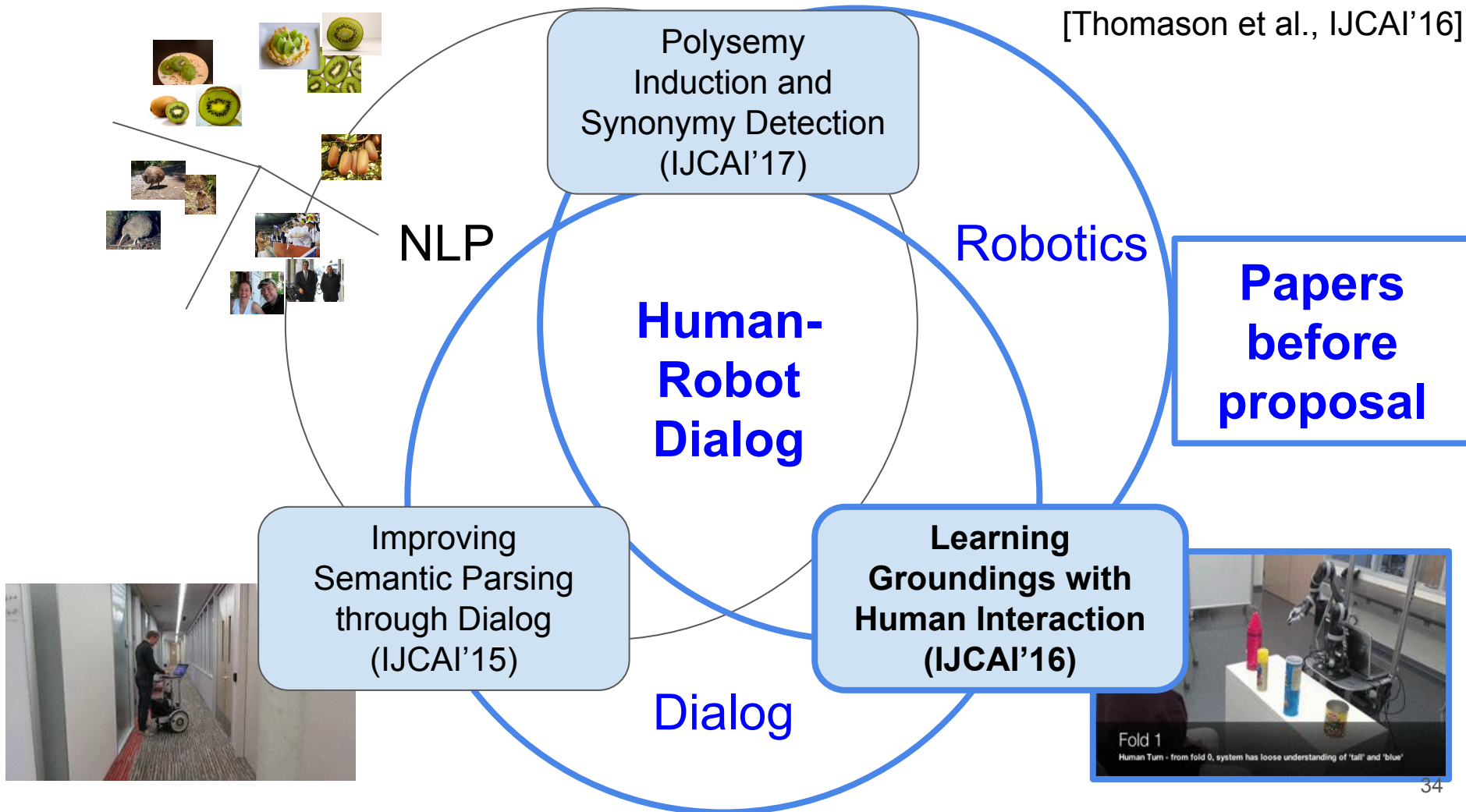
Qualitative: One user wrote “the robot even fixed my typo when I misspelled calendar!”

Other Findings

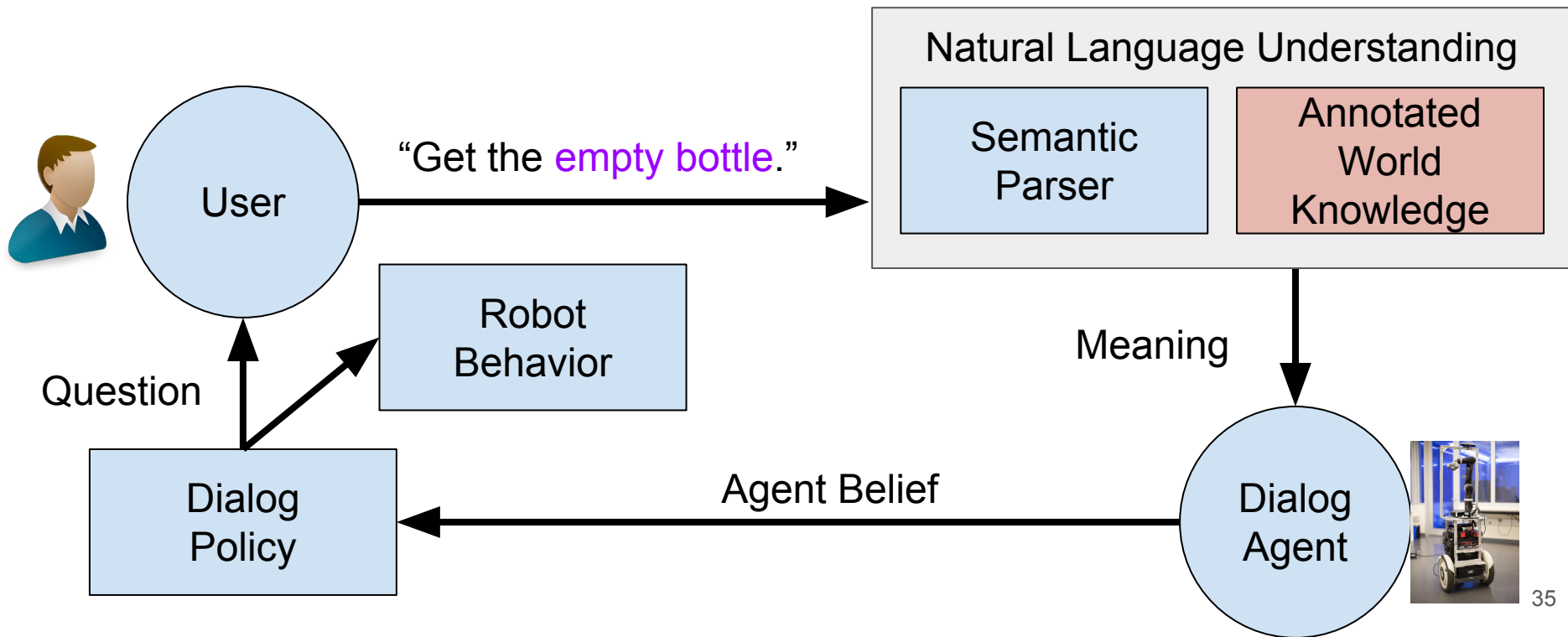


- Users rate system more understanding and less frustrating.
- Results replicable on physical platform.

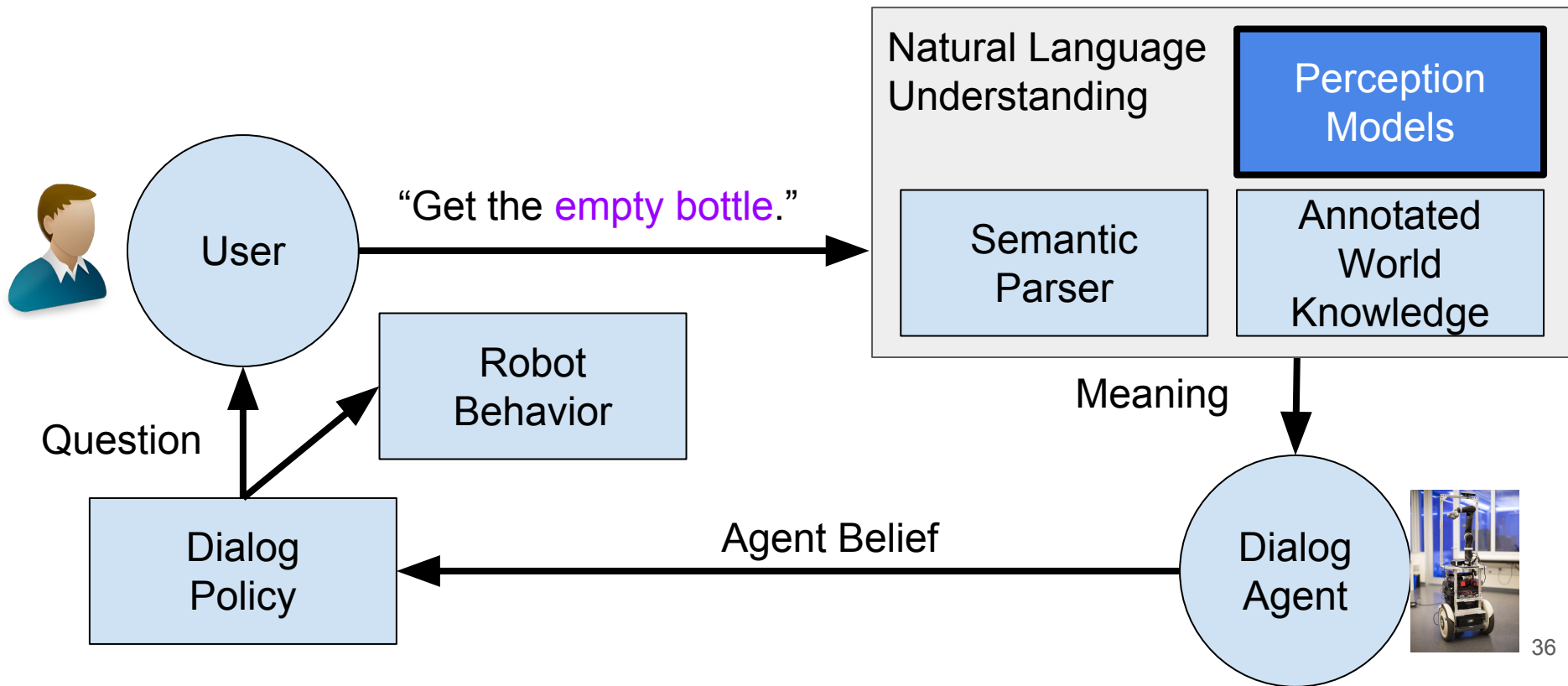




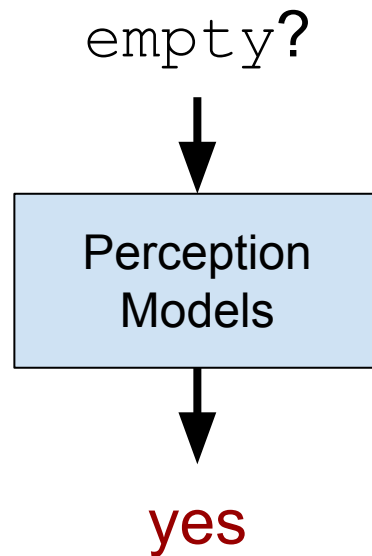
We do not yet handle perception information



We need to perform *language grounding*



Language Grounding



Language Grounding



- *Symbol grounding problem.*
- Historically use visual space.
- We use more than vision.

Language Grounding



Haptic sensors from arm
give force information.

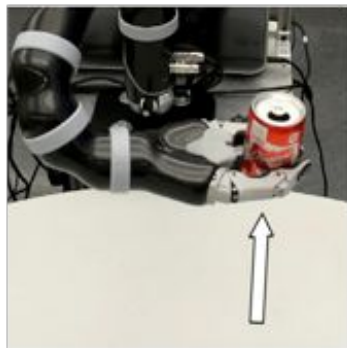
Audio signals from mic give
sound information.

Perceptual Grounding

Grasp



Lift



Lower



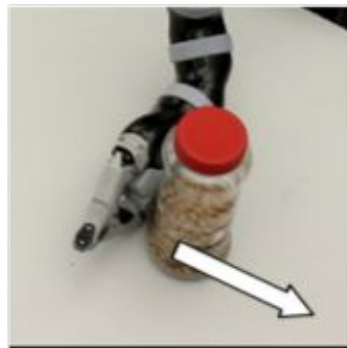
Drop



Press



Push



Look



color, shape,
and deep
VGG features.

Building Perceptual Classifiers

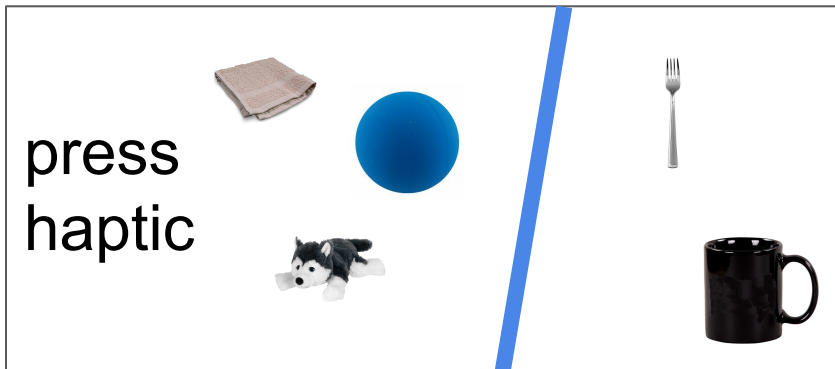
 $G_{p,c}(o)$

SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o

p : squishy

c :

press
haptic



Few labeled examples,
but SVMs can operate
on this sparse data.

Building Perceptual Classifiers

$G_{p,c}(o)$	SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o
--------------	---

$$\boxed{d(p, o)} = \text{sgn} \left(\sum_{c \in C} w_{p,c} G_{p,c}(o) \right)$$

Decision

Building Perceptual Classifiers

$G_{p,c}(o)$	SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o
--------------	---

$$d(p, o) = \operatorname{sgn} \left(\sum_{c \in C} w_{p,c} G_{p,c}(o) \right)$$

Decision

Sensorimotor
Contexts

Building Perceptual Classifiers

$G_{p,c}(o)$	SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o
--------------	---

$$d(p, o) = \text{sgn} \left(\sum_{c \in C} w_{p,c} G_{p,c}(o) \right)$$

Decision

Sensorimotor
ContextsContext
SVM result

Building Perceptual Classifiers

$G_{p,c}(o)$	SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o
--------------	---

$$d(p, o) = \operatorname{sgn} \left(\sum_{c \in C} w_{p,c} G_{p,c}(o) \right)$$

Decision

Sensorimotor
ContextsReliability
WeightContext
SVM result

Building Perceptual Classifiers

$G_{p,c}(o)$	SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o
--------------	---

$$d(p, o) = \text{sgn} \left(\sum_{c \in C} w_{p,c} G_{p,c}(o) \right)$$

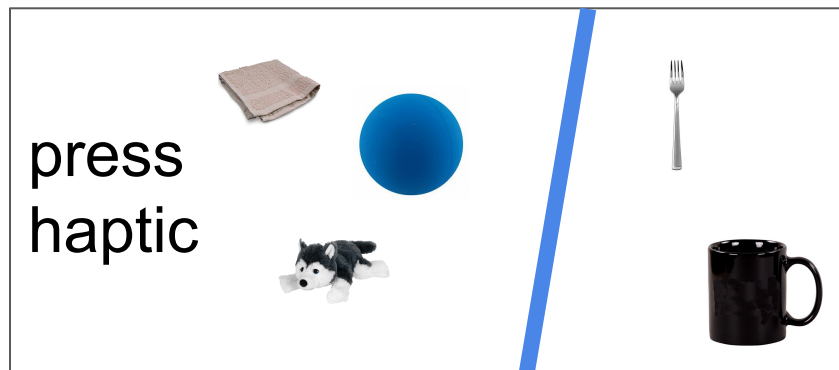
Reliability weights
estimated from xval

squishy	
sensorimotor context	$w_{p,c'}$
press-haptics	0.5
grasp-haptics	0.3
...	...
look-VGG	0.01

Building Perceptual Classifiers

$$G_{p,c}(o)$$

SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o



Reliability weights
estimated from xval

squishy	
sensorimotor context	$w_{p,c'}$
press-haptics	0.5
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...	...
look-VGG	0.01

Building Perceptual Classifiers

$G_{p,c}(o)$	SVM trained for predicate p and sensorimotor context c result on object o
--------------	---



Reliability weights
estimated from xval

squishy	
sensorimotor context	$w_{p,c'}$
press-haptics	0.5
grasp-haptics	0.3
...	...
look-VGG	0.01

Technical Contributions

- Ensemble SVMs over **multi-modal object features** to perform **language grounding**.
- Get language labels from natural **language game** with human users





Human Turn

Initially, the robot has no training data and randomly guesses objects.

Experiments Playing / Spy

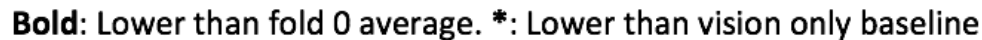


VS

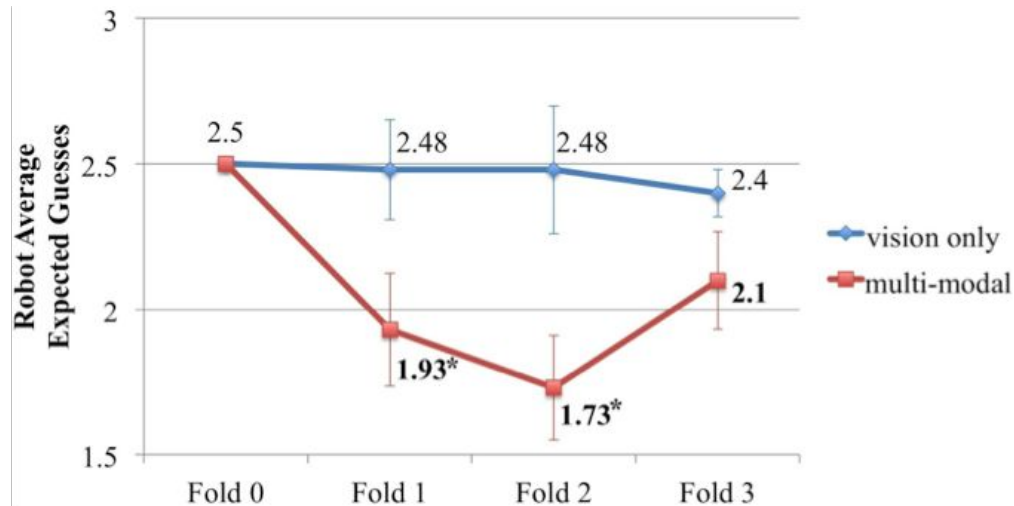


multi-modal

vision only

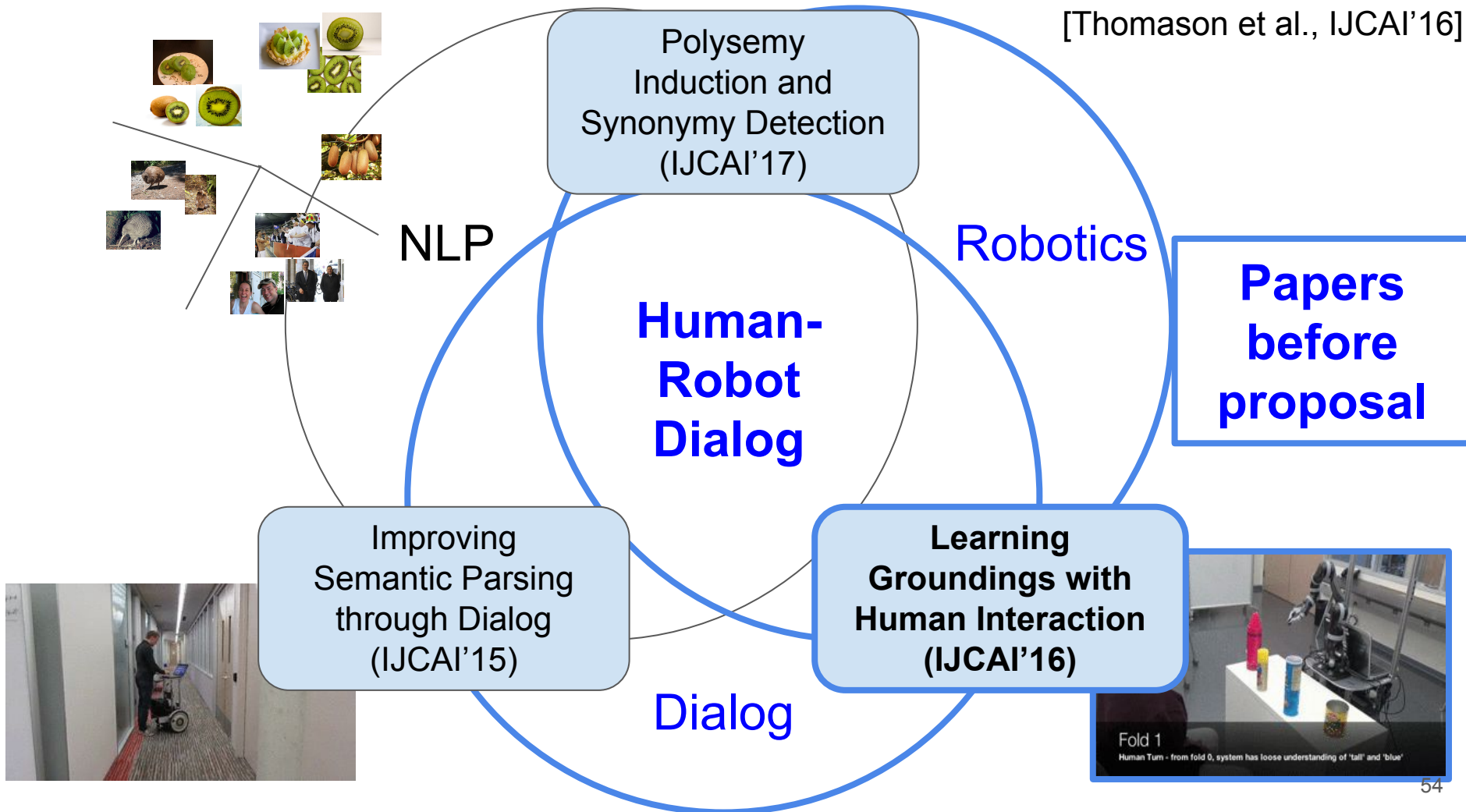


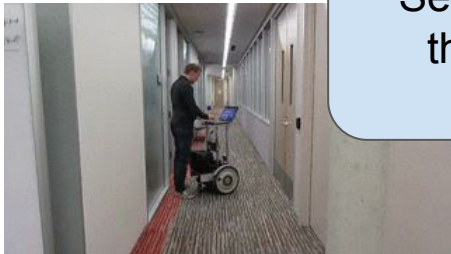
Problematic / *Spy* Object



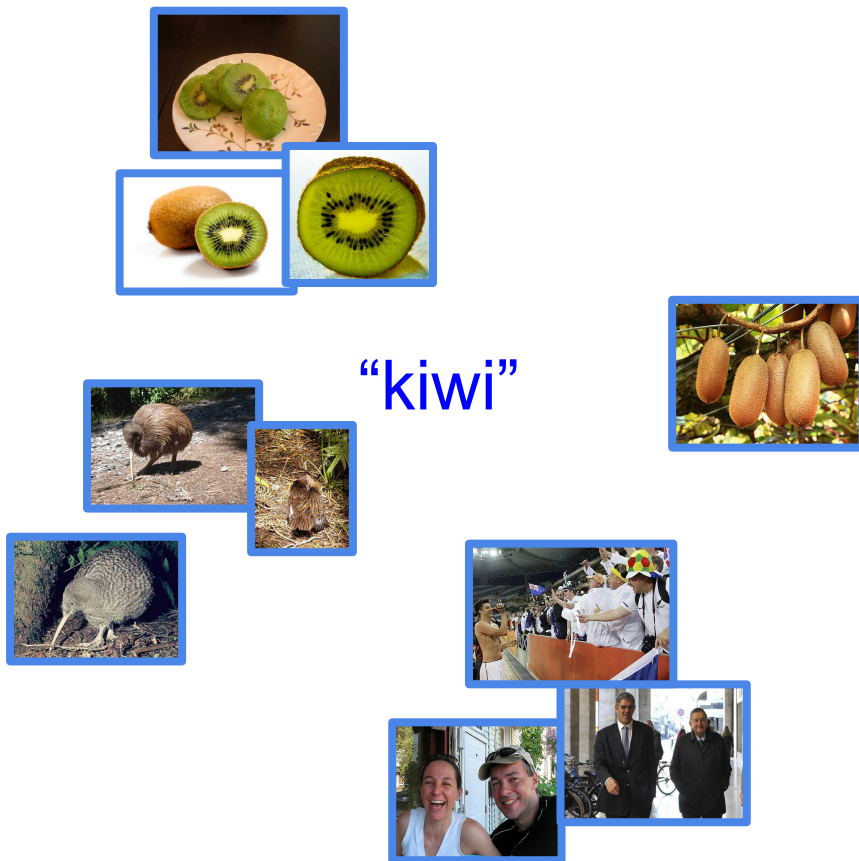
Bold: Lower than fold 0 average. *****: Lower than vision only baseline

Future: Be mindful of object *novelty* both for the learning algorithm and for human users.

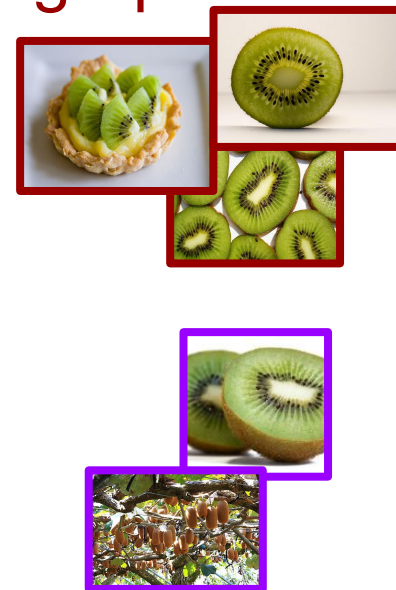




Unsupervised Word Synset Induction



“chinese grapefruit”



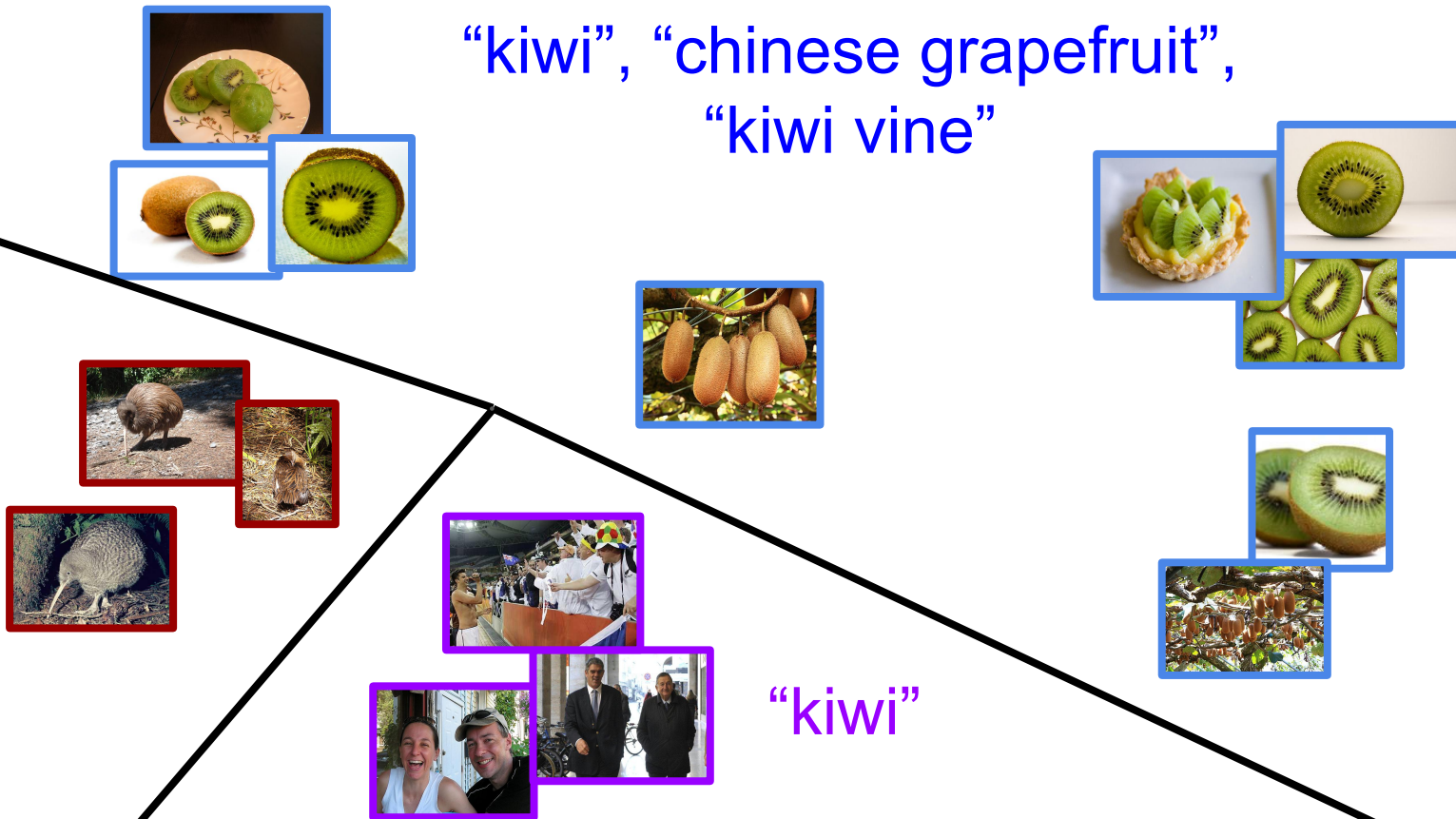
“kiwi vine”

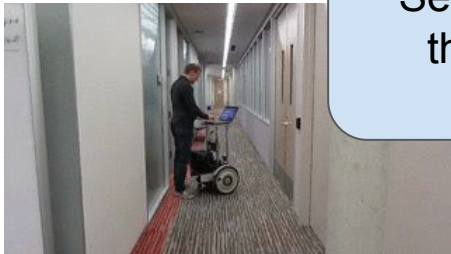
Unsupervised Word Synset Induction

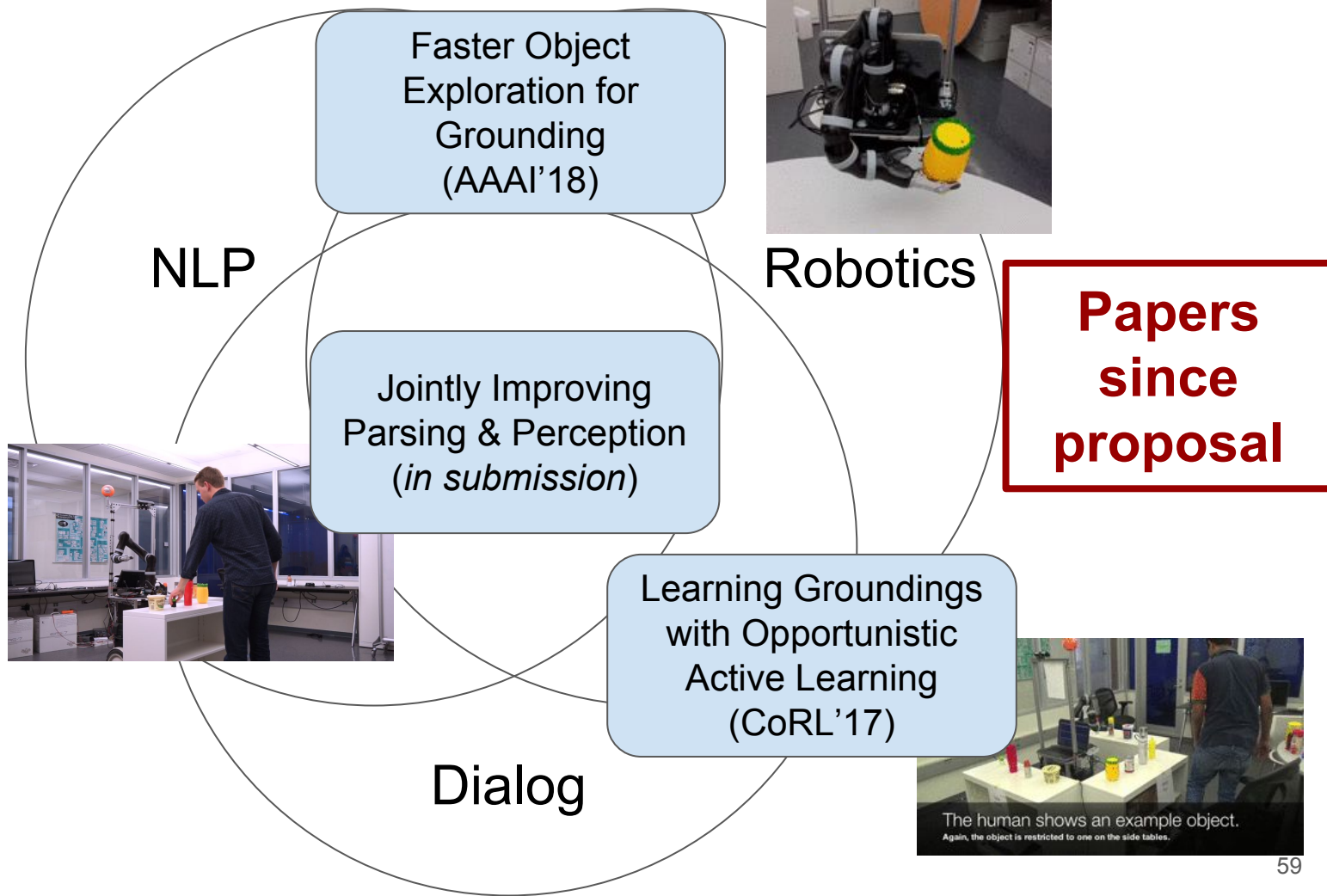
“kiwi”, “chinese grapefruit”,
“kiwi vine”

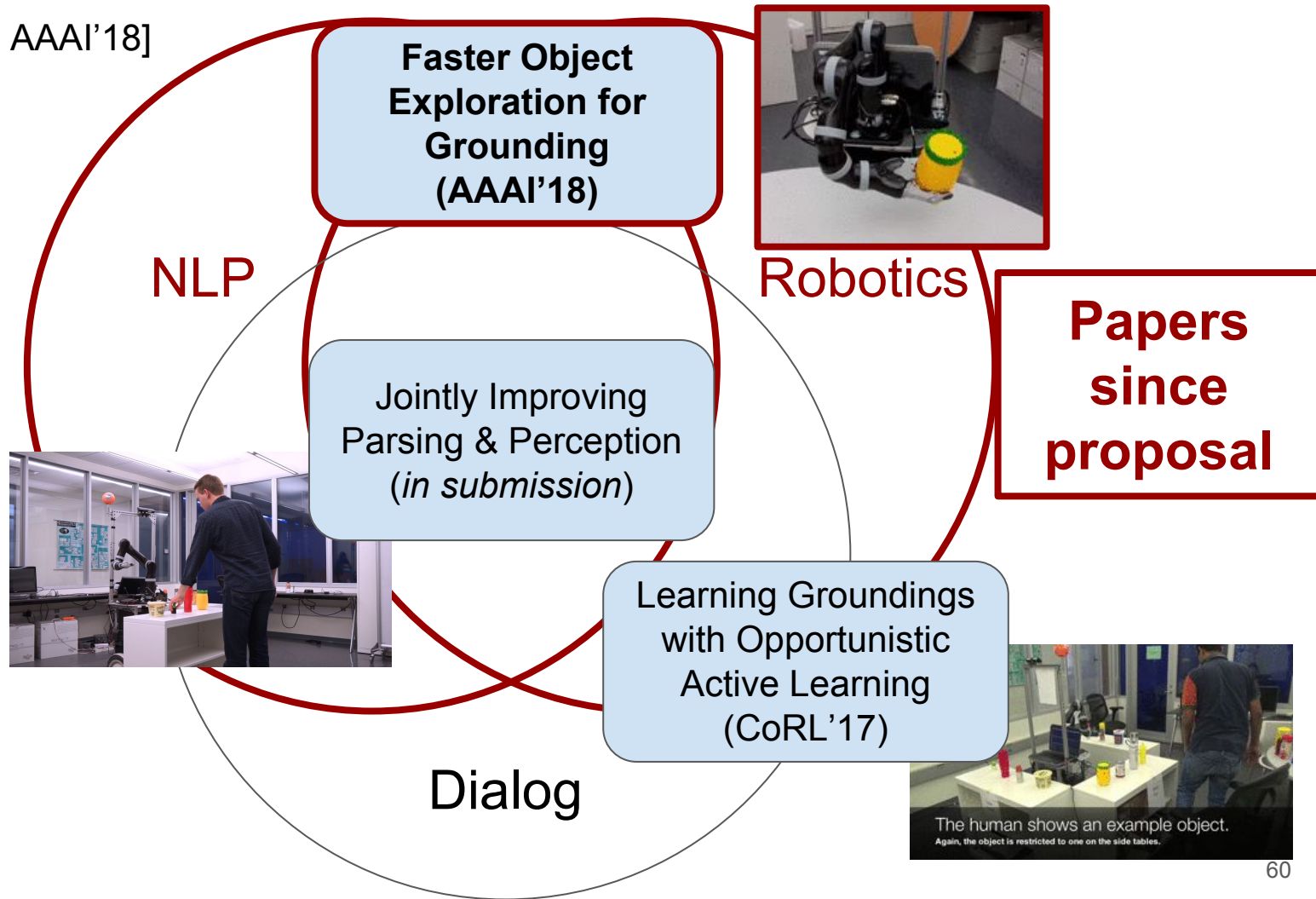
“kiwi”

“kiwi”





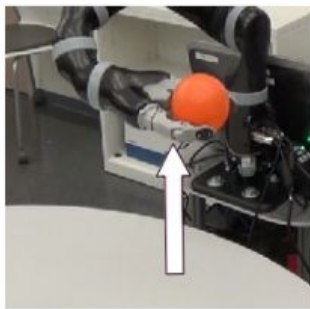




Exploratory Behaviors



grasp (22s)

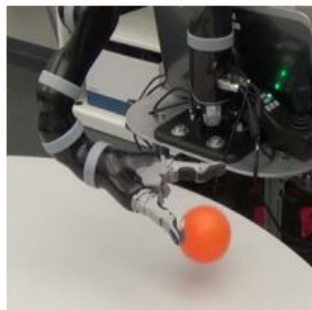


lift (11.1s)

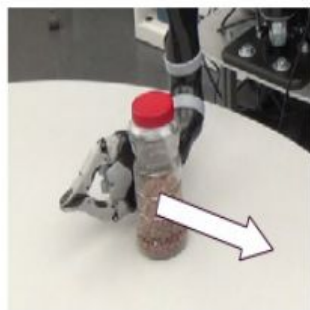


lower (10.6s)

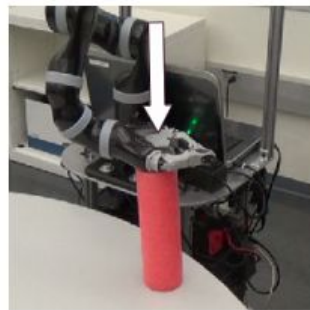
+hold
(5.7s)



drop (9.8s)



push (22s)



press (22s)

+look
(0.8s)

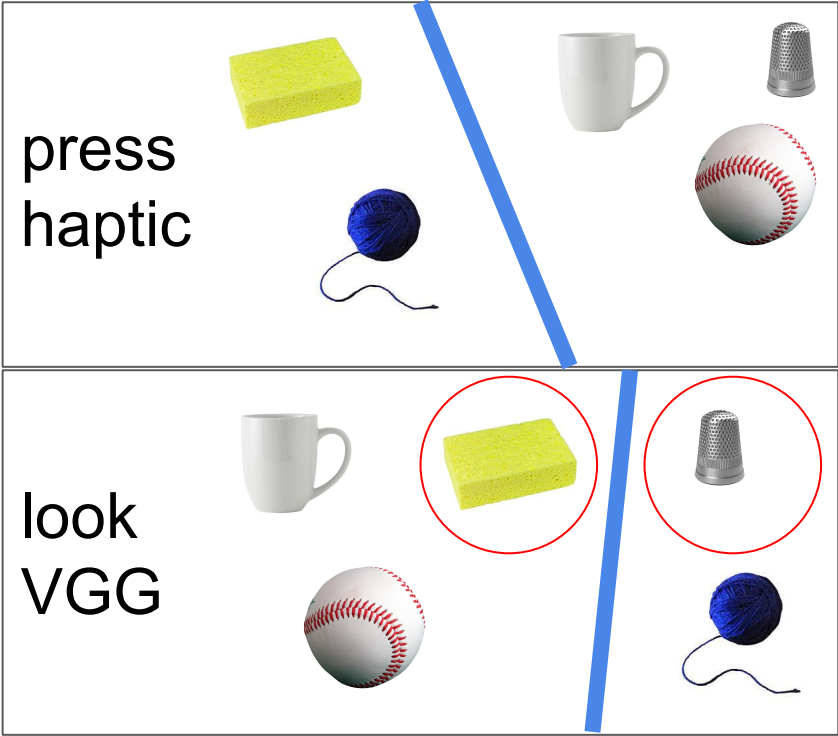
104s to explore
an object once.

520s to explore
an object five
times.

4.5 hours to
fully explore 32
objects.

Guiding Exploratory Behaviors

rigid:



squishy?

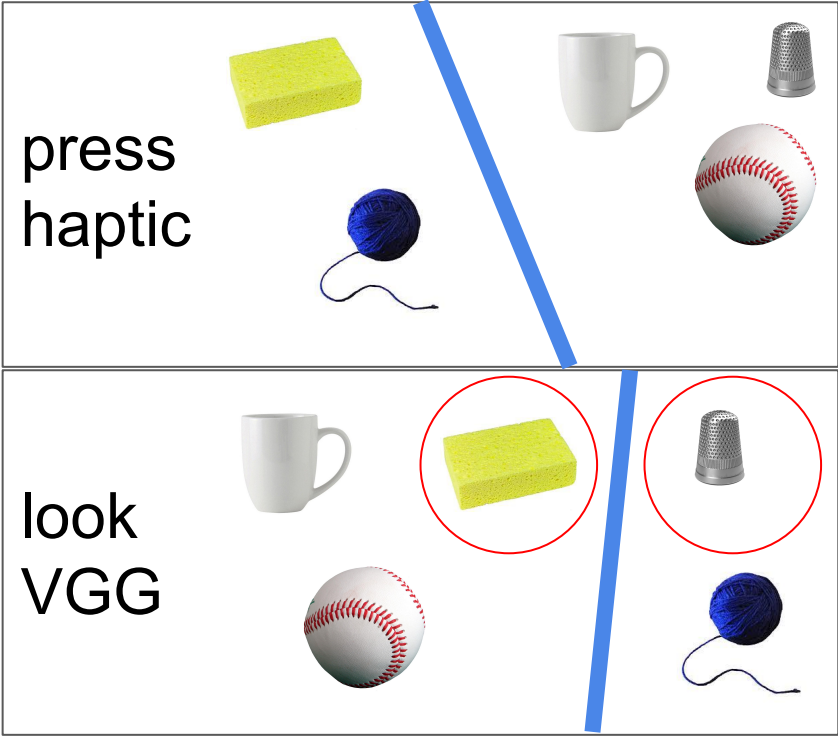


press?

look?

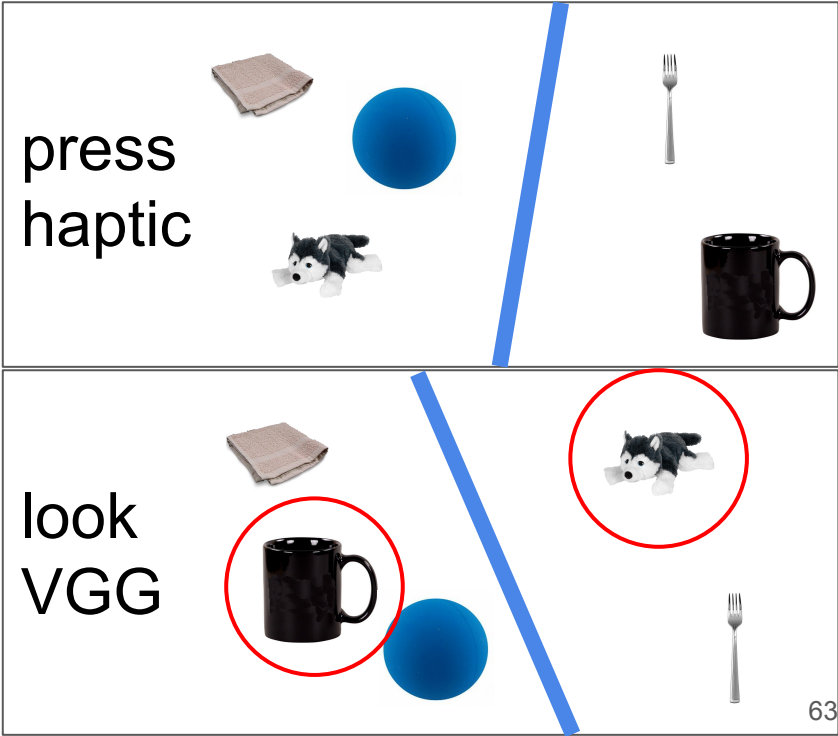
Guiding Exploratory Behaviors

rigid:



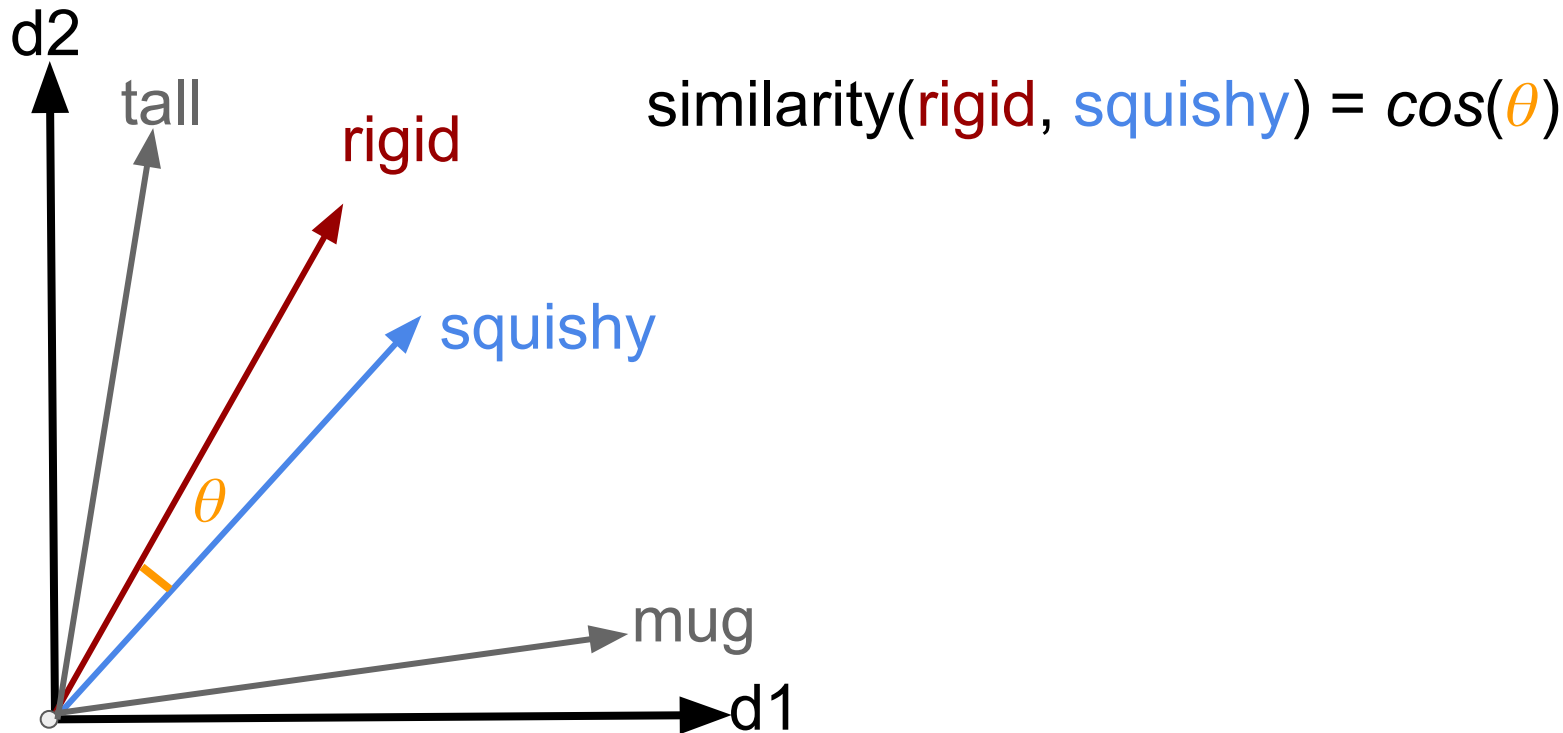
+

squishy

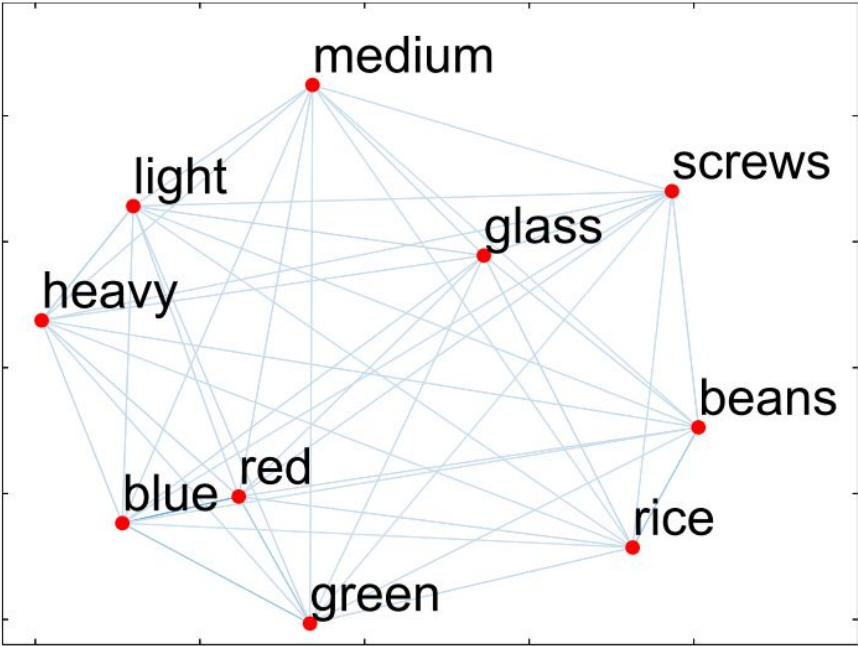


×

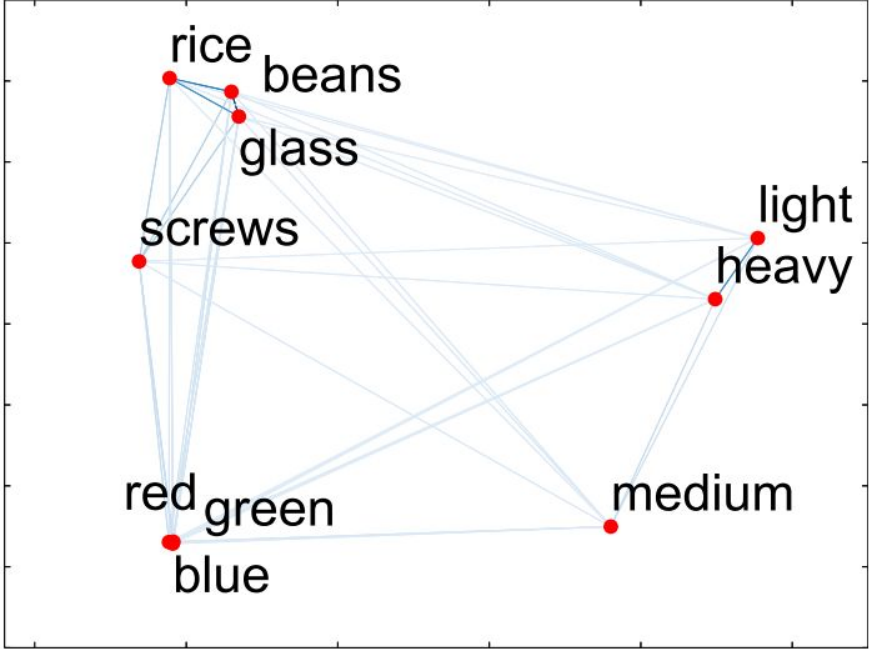
Guiding Exploratory Behaviors



Shared Structure: Embeddings and Features



2D-projection of
word embeddings



2D-projection of
behavior context features

Guiding Exploratory Behaviors using Embeddings

$$d(p, o) = \text{sgn} \left(\sum_{c \in C} w_{p,c} G_{p,c}(o) \right)$$

$$w_{q,c} \approx \frac{1}{|P_q|} \sum_{p \in P_q} \text{poscos}(p, q) w_{p,c}$$

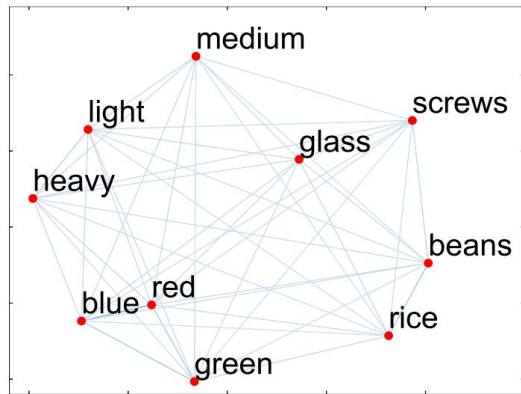
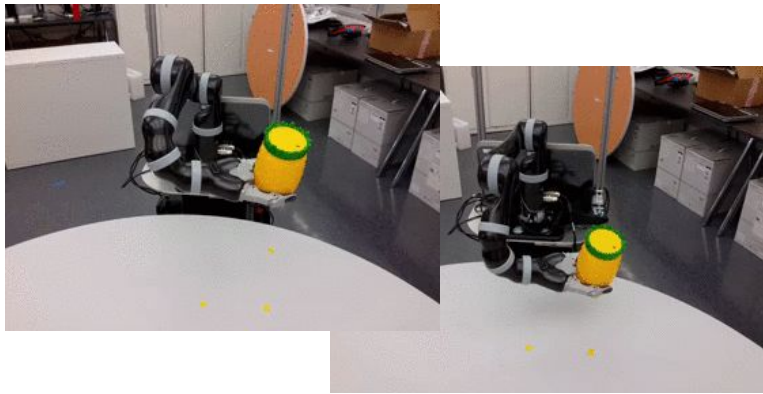
Surrogate reliability
weights for new
classifiers for q

Nearest
word-embedding
predicates to q

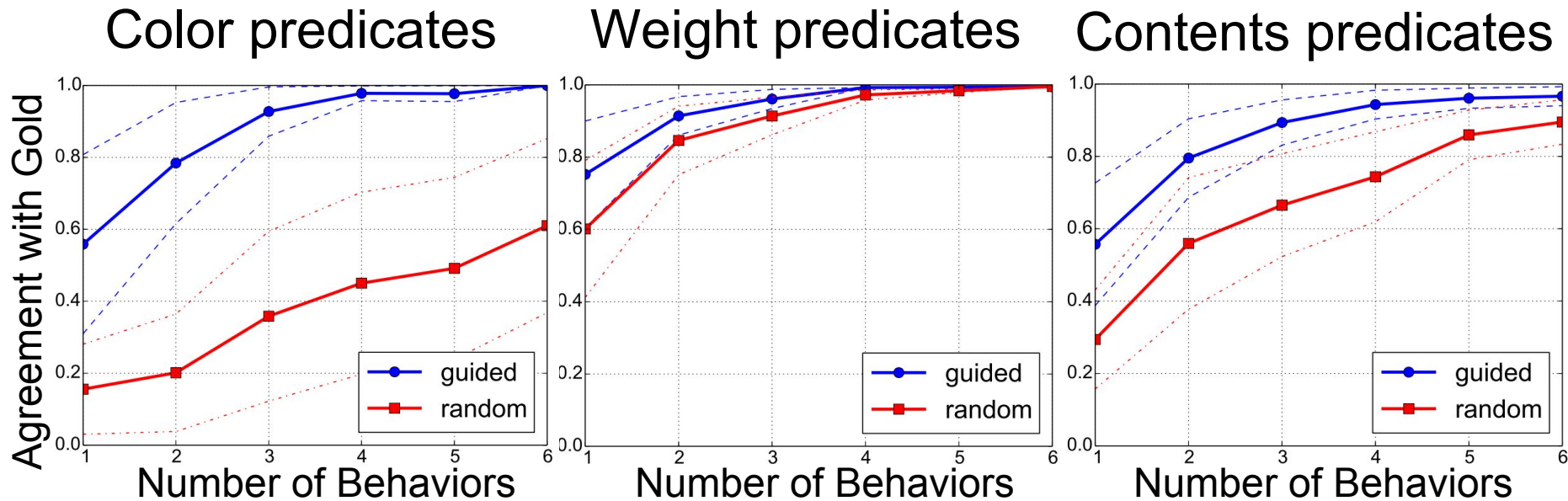
Reliability weights for
trained neighbor
classifiers p

Technical Contributions

- Reduce exploration time when **learning a target new word.**
- Use word embeddings and human annotations to **guide behaviors.**

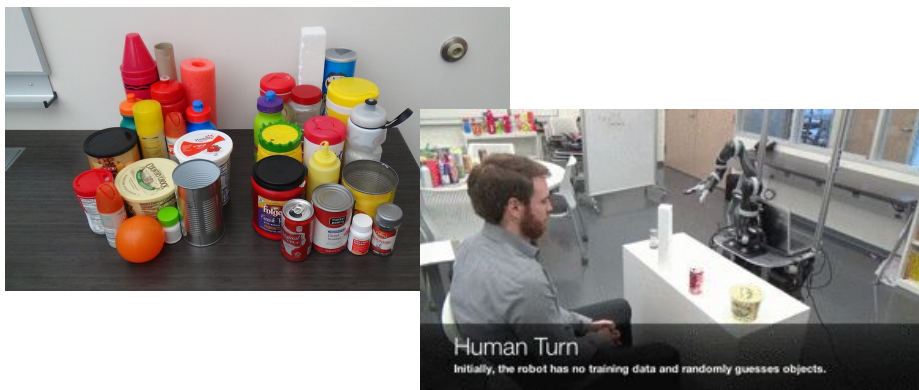
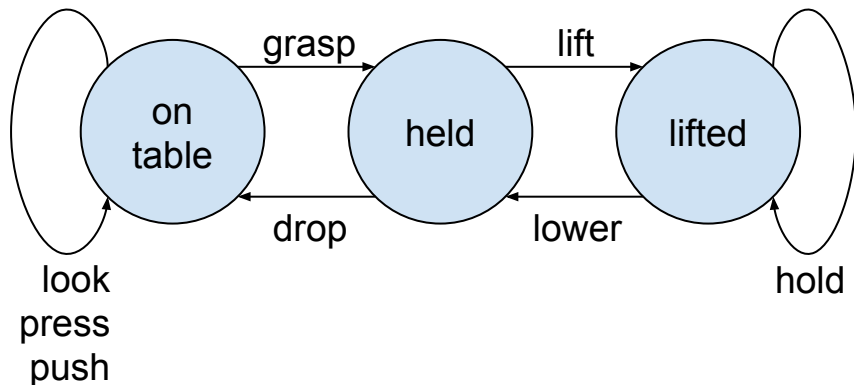


Results

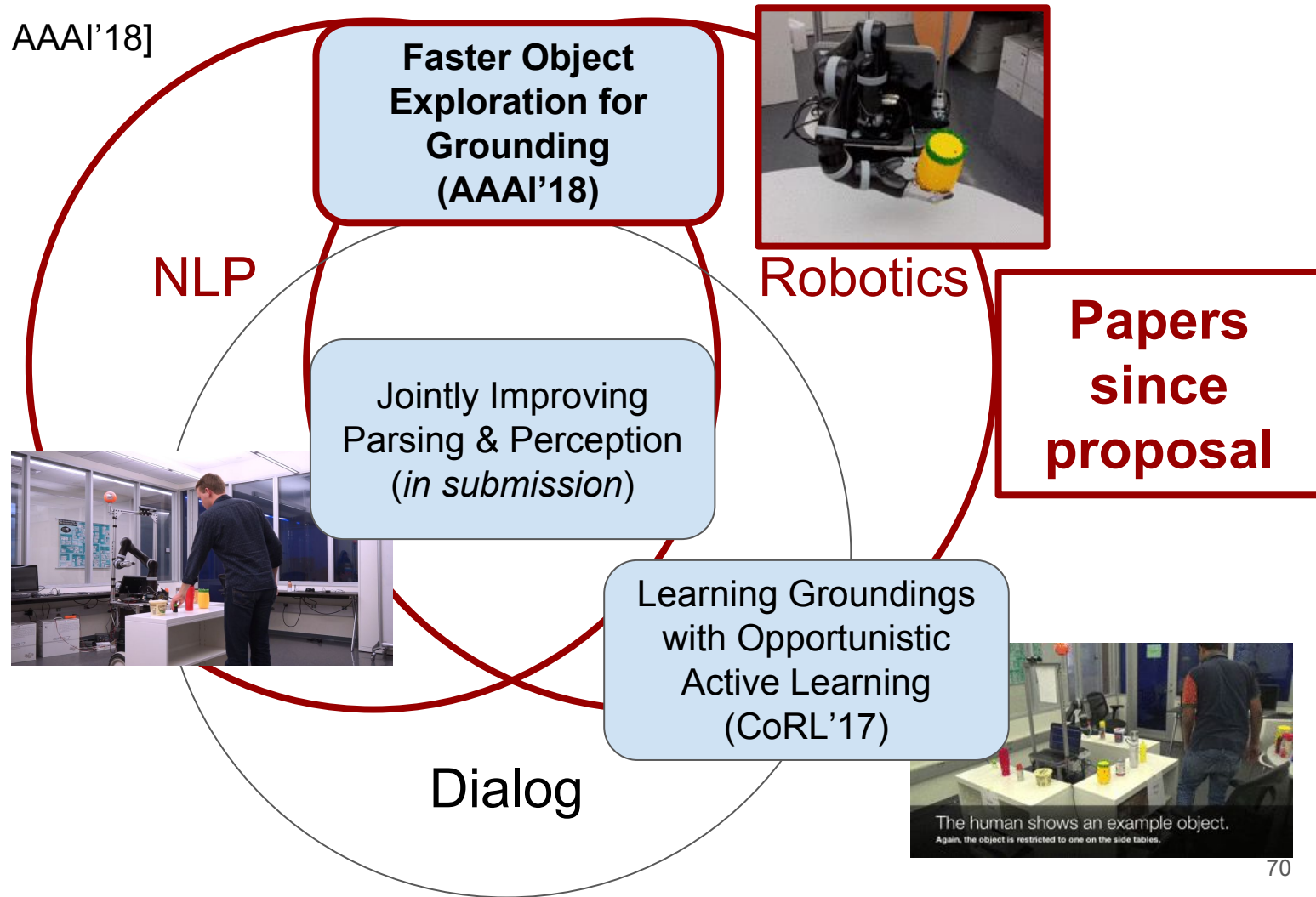


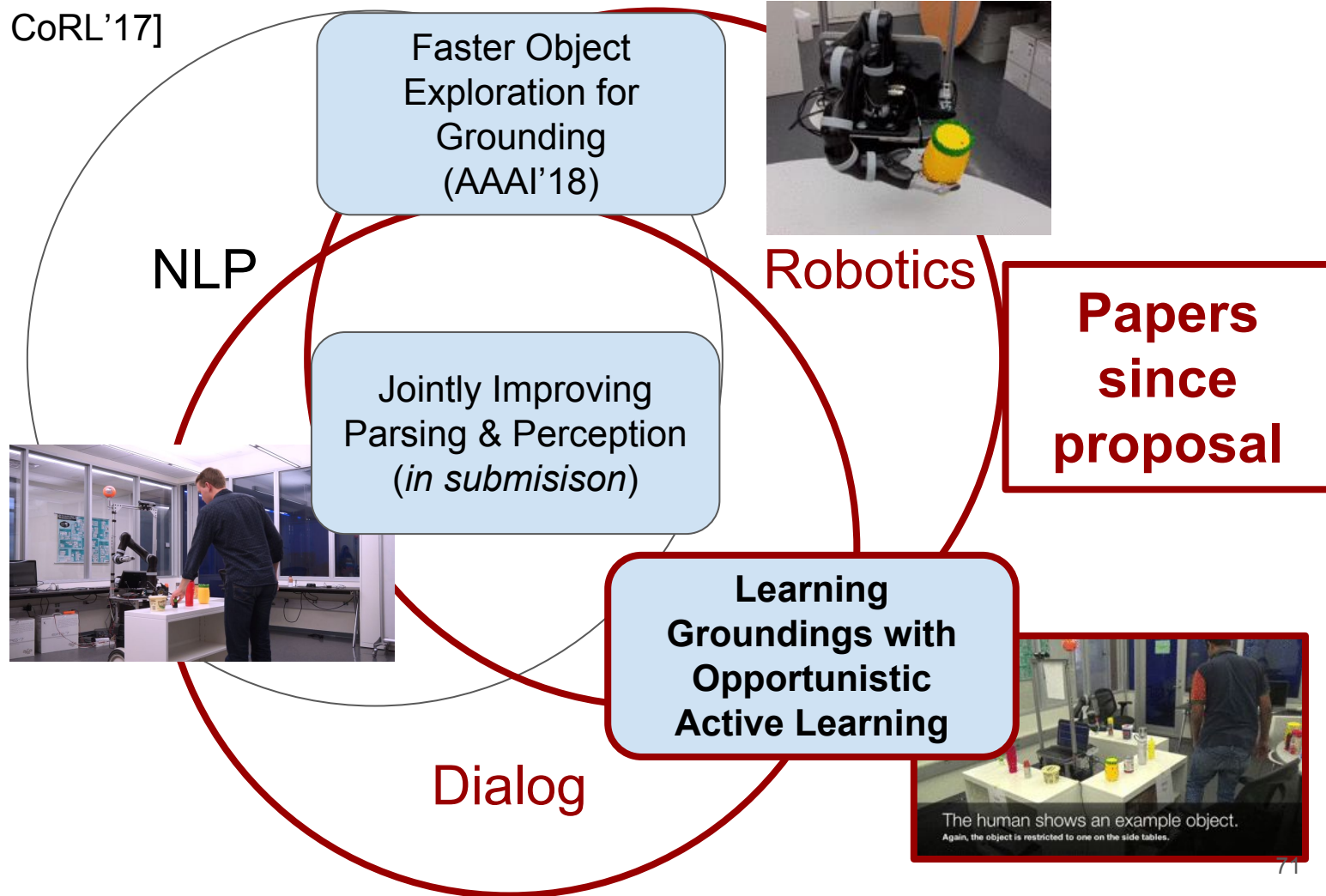
(dotted lines show standard error)

Other Findings



- Human annotations help; “how would you tell if an object is *tall*?”
- Human annotations + word embeddings work better than either alone.





Active Learning for Perceptual Questions

$$o_{\min}(p) = \operatorname{argmin}_{o \in O_{tr}} (\kappa(p, o))$$

The object for which the predicate classifier is least sure of the predicted label.

d(bottle, ) = -0.6

d(bottle, ) = 0.8

d(bottle, ) = 0.4

d(bottle, ) = -0.2

Active Learning for Perceptual Questions

empty	
sensorimotor context	$w_{p,c}$
lift-haptics	?
lift-audio	?
...	...
look-vgg	?

bottle	
sensorimotor context	$w_{p,c}$
look-shape	0.6
look-vgg	0.5
...	...
lower-haptics	0.02

Active Learning for Perceptual Questions

$$prob(p) = \frac{1 - \kappa(p, o_{\min}(p))}{\sum_{q \in P \setminus \{p\}} 1 - \kappa(q, o_{\min}(q))}$$

Ask for a label with probability proportional to *unconfidence* in least confident training object.

$$p \in \{q : q \in P \wedge \kappa(q, o_{\min}(q)) = 0\}$$

Ask for a positive label for any predicate we have insufficient data for.

Active Learning for Perceptual Questions

“Could you use the word **bottle** when describing this object?”



Ask for a label with probability proportional to *unconfidence* in least confident training object.

“Can you show me something **empty**?”

Ask for a positive label for any predicate we have insufficient data for.



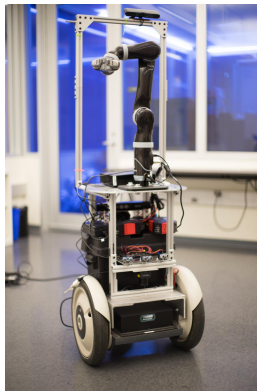
The human shows an example object.
Again, the object is restricted to one on the side tables.

Technical Contributions

- Introduce an **opportunistic active learning** strategy for getting high-value labels.
- Show that *off-topic* questions **improve performance**.



“A **full**, **yellow** bottle.”



“Would you describe this object as **full**?”

“Show me something **red**.”

Experiments with Object Identification



“Would you
describe this
object as **full**?”

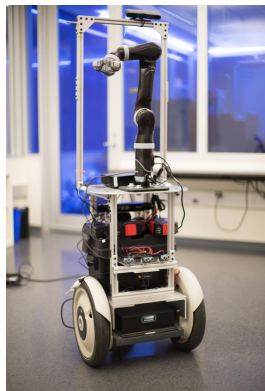
Baseline Agent

vs

“Show me
something **red**.”

Inquisitive Agent

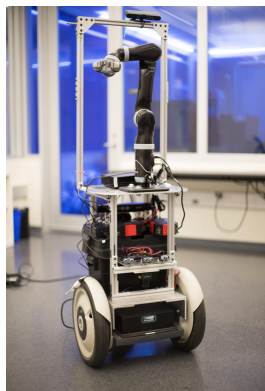
Results



“Would you describe this object as **full**?”

Baseline Agent

Rated less annoying.

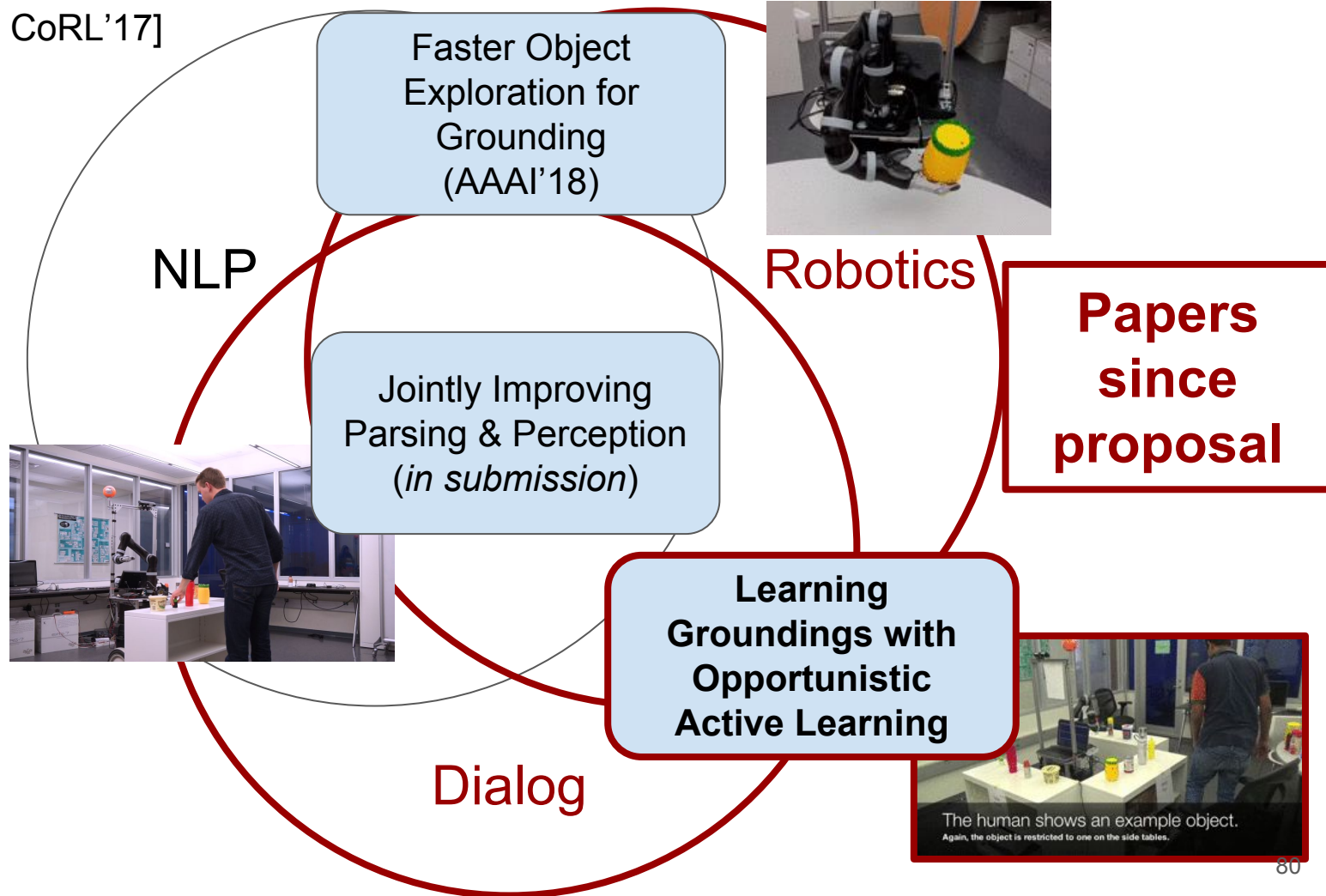


“Show me something **red**.”

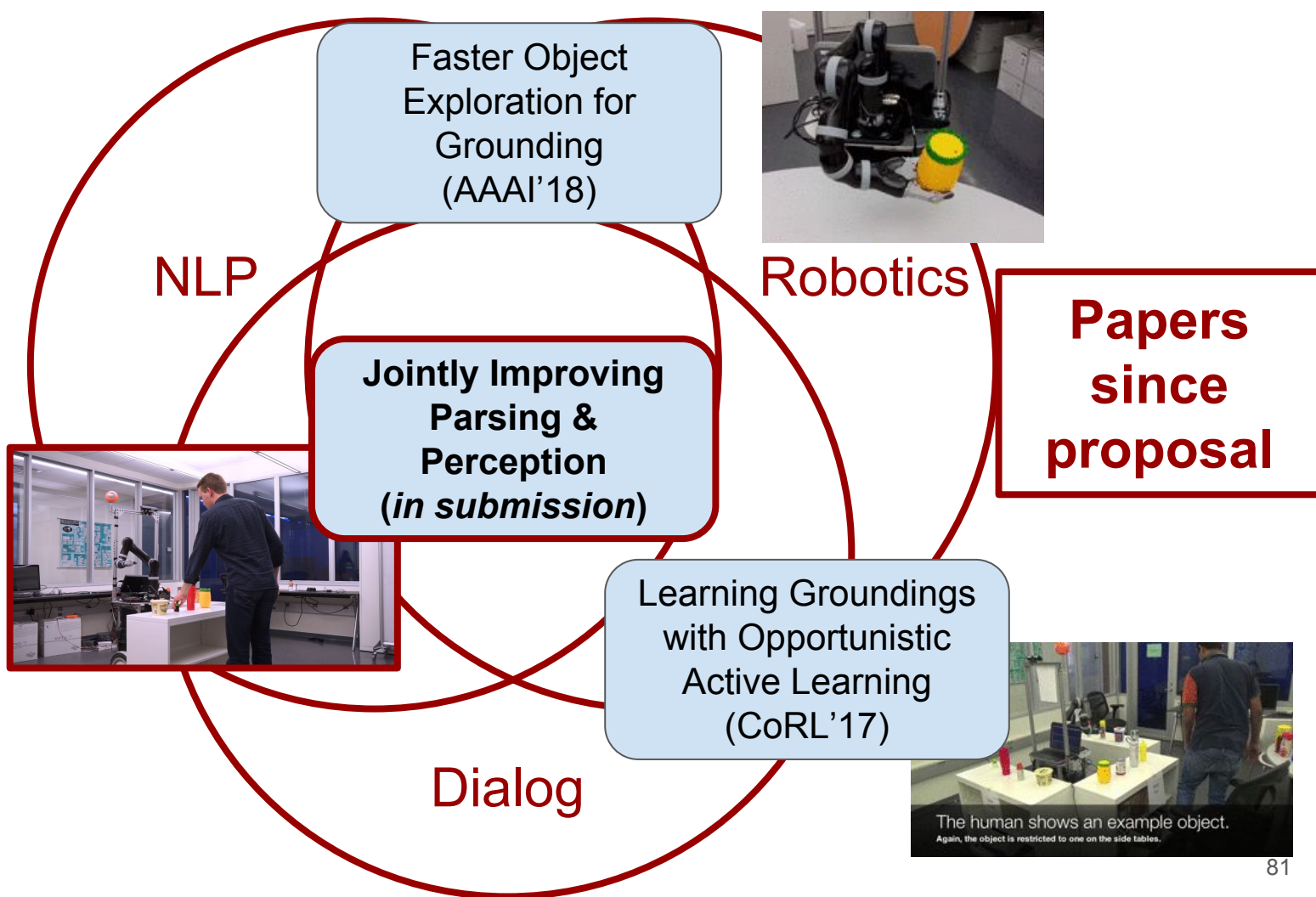
Inquisitive Agent

Correct object more often.

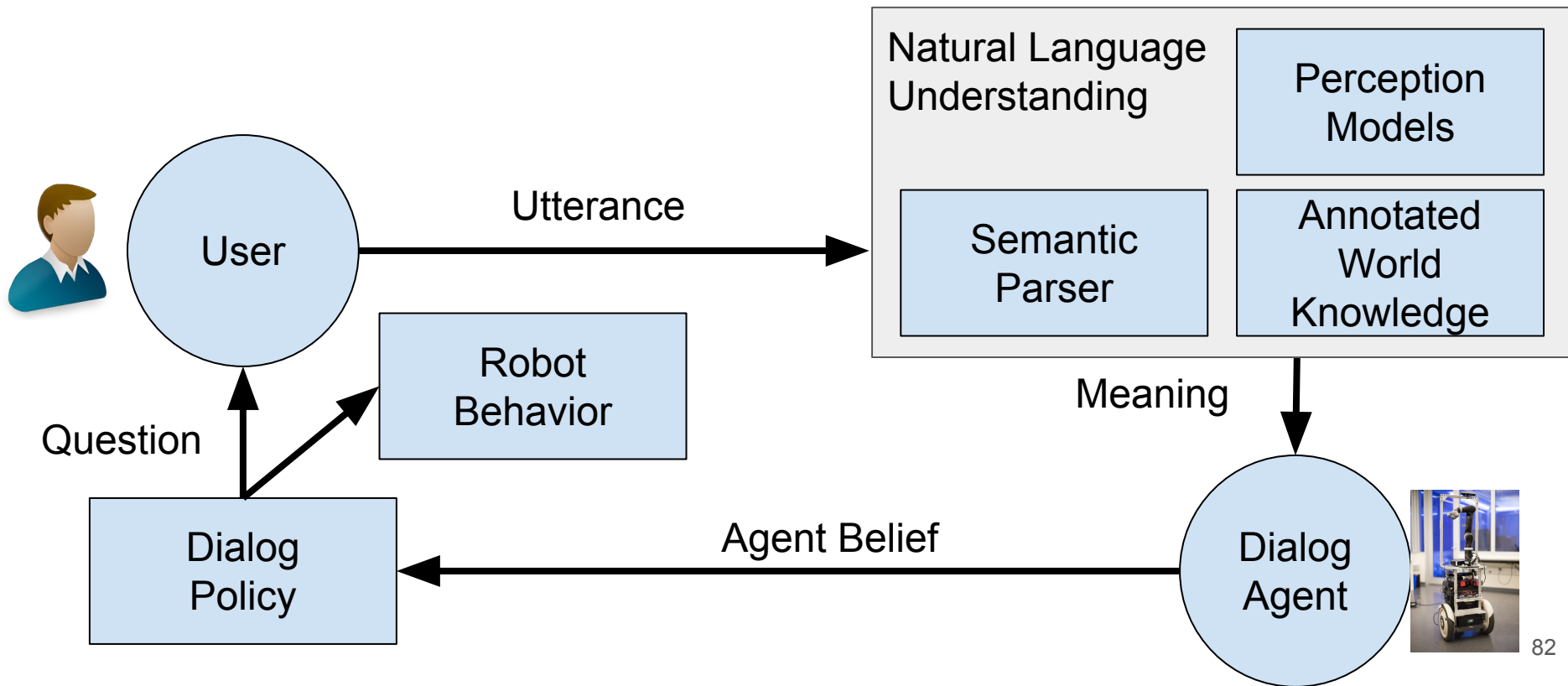
Rated better for real-world use.



[in submission]



Human-Robot Dialog



Jointly Improving Parsing and Perception



“Move a rattling container from lounge by the conference room to Bob’s office.”

Experiments via Amazon Mechanical Turk

ROBOT What should I do?

YOU move a red can from the middle lab to the mallory's office

ROBOT You want me to move an item from somewhere to somewhere (not give it to someone)?

YOU yes

ROBOT Where should I move something from on its way somewhere else?

YOU the middle lab

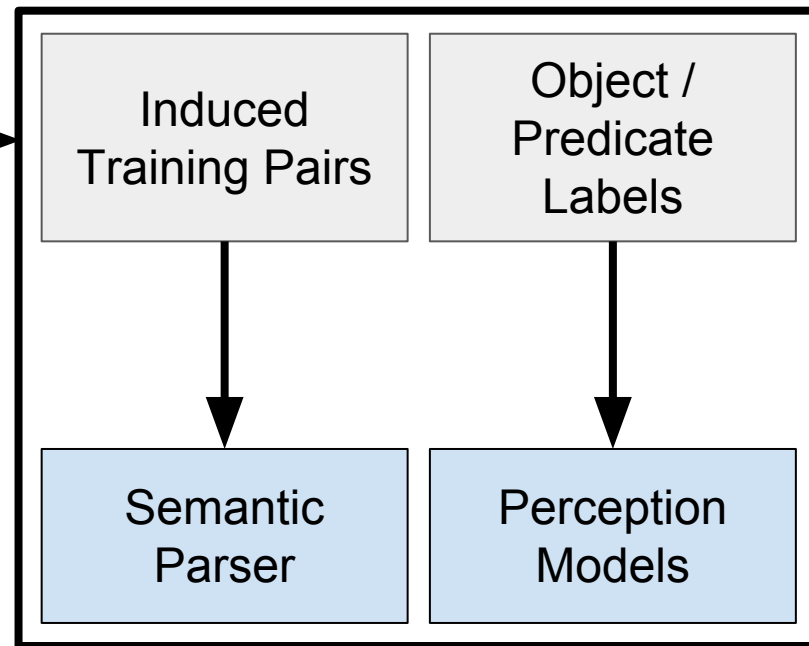
ROBOT To where should I move something from here?

YOU type your response here...

Say

x 113

Training



Experiments via Amazon Mechanical Turk

ROBOT What should I do?

YOU move a red can from the middle lab to the mallory's office

ROBOT You want me to move an item from somewhere to somewhere (not give it to someone)?

YOU yes

ROBOT Where should I move something from on its way somewhere else?

YOU the middle lab

ROBOT To where should I move something from here?

YOU

Say

x ~45

Testing - Baseline

Semantic
Parser

Perception
Models

Experiments via Amazon Mechanical Turk

ROBOT What should I do?

YOU move a red can from the middle lab to the mallory's office

ROBOT You want me to move an item from somewhere to somewhere (not give it to someone)?

YOU yes

ROBOT Where should I move something from on its way somewhere else?

YOU the middle lab

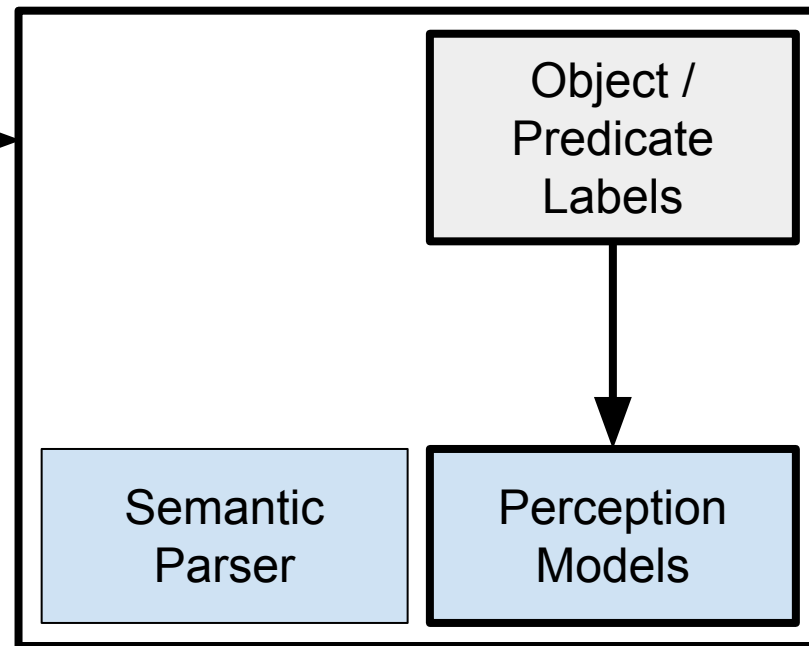
ROBOT To where should I move something from here?

YOU type your response here...

Say

x ~45

Testing - Perception




Getting Object/Predicate Labels in Dialog

ROBOT I'm still learning the meanings of some words. I'm going to ask you a few questions about these nearby objects before we continue.

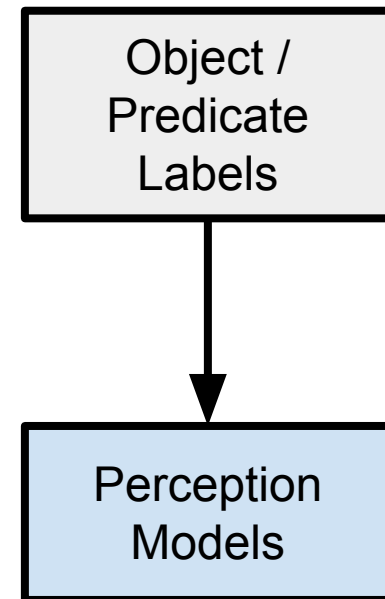
ROBOT Would you use the word 'metallic' when describing [this](#) object?

YOU

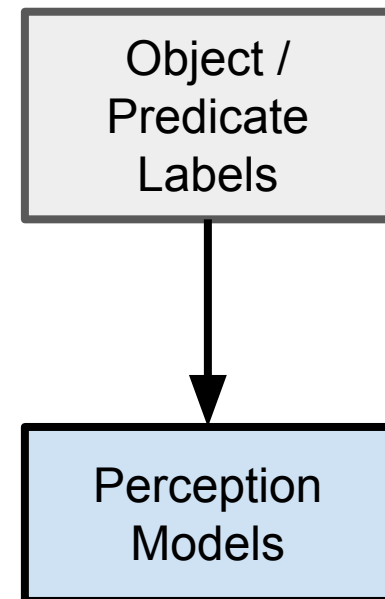
Say



The image shows a blue water bottle with a green and orange cap, sitting on a white table. The bottle is centered in the frame, and the table surface is visible around it. The background is slightly blurred, showing a dark floor and some furniture.



Getting Object/Predicate Labels in Dialog



Experiments via Amazon Mechanical Turk

ROBOT What should I do?

YOU move a red can from the middle lab to the mallory's office

ROBOT You want me to move an item from somewhere to somewhere (not give it to someone)?

YOU yes

ROBOT Where should I move something from on its way somewhere else?

YOU the middle lab

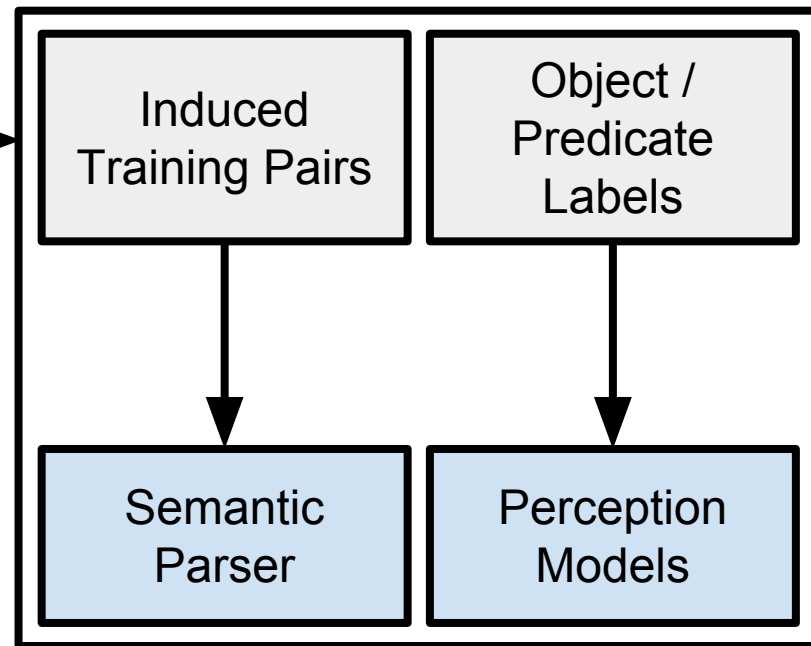
ROBOT To where should I move something from here?

YOU type your response here...

Say

x ~45

Testing - Parsing + Perception



Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog

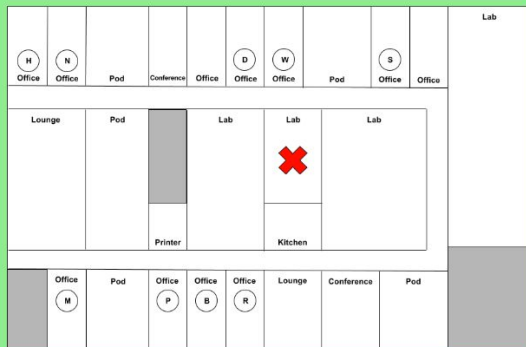
ROBOT What should I do?
 YOU go to the middle lab
 ROBOT You want me to go somewhere? (not manipulate any objects)
 YOU yes
 ROBOT Where should I go?
 YOU the lab in the middle
 ROBOT You want me to go to **here** (not manipulate any objects)?
 YOU yes
 YOU type your response here...

Say

The robot navigates to **here**.

To advance to the next task, click the button below.

Okay



Induced
Training Pairs



Semantic
Parser

Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog

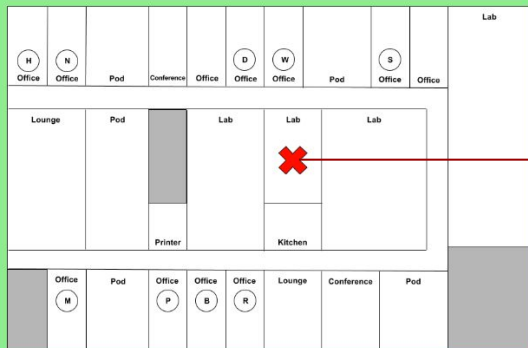
ROBOT What should I do?
 YOU go to the middle lab
 ROBOT You want me to go somewhere? (not manipulate any objects)
 YOU yes
 ROBOT Where should I go?
 YOU the lab in the middle
 ROBOT You want me to go to here (not manipulate any objects)?
 YOU yes
 YOU type your response here...

Say

The robot navigates to [here](#).

To advance to the next task, click the button below.

Okay



Expect whole command

Expect *goal*

task: navigate
goal: `room_3`

Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog

Induced Utterance/Denotation Pairs

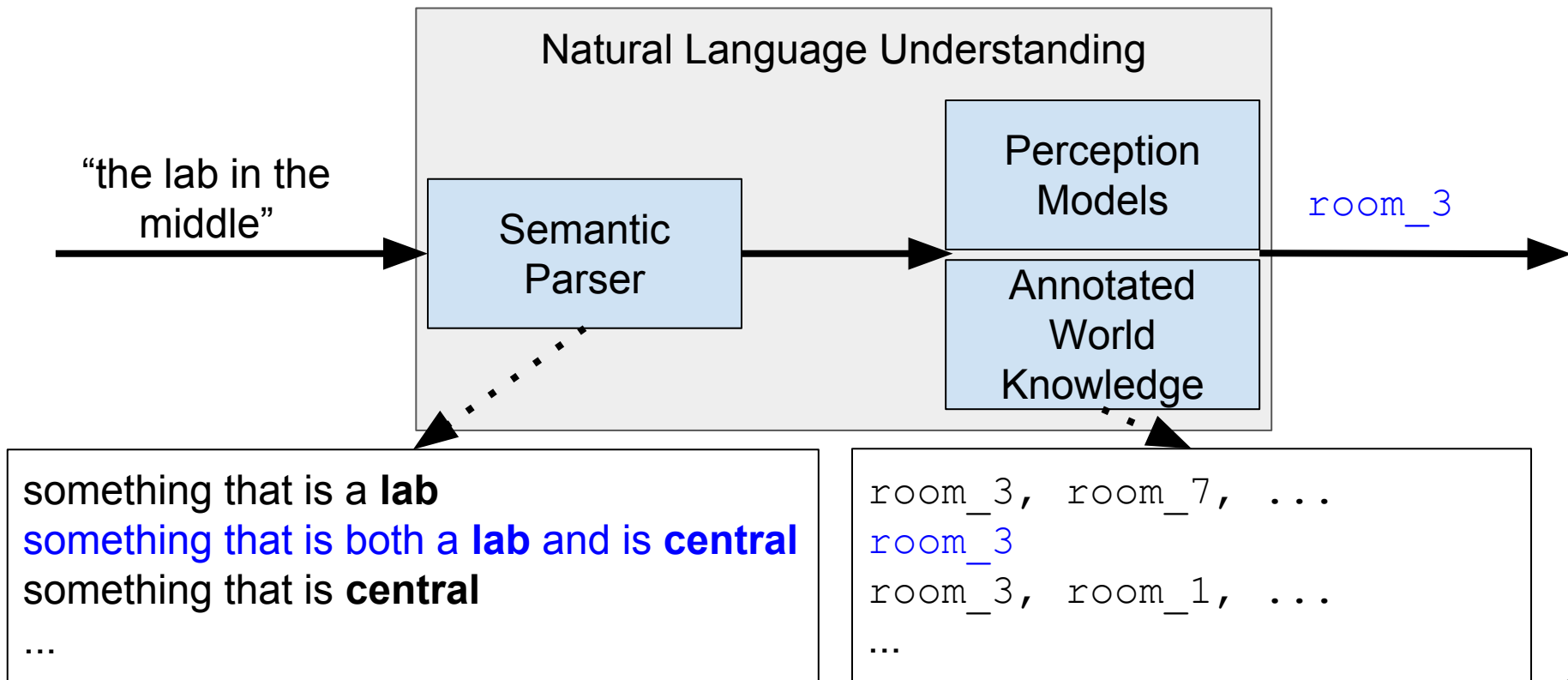
“go to the middle lab”

`navigate(room_3)`

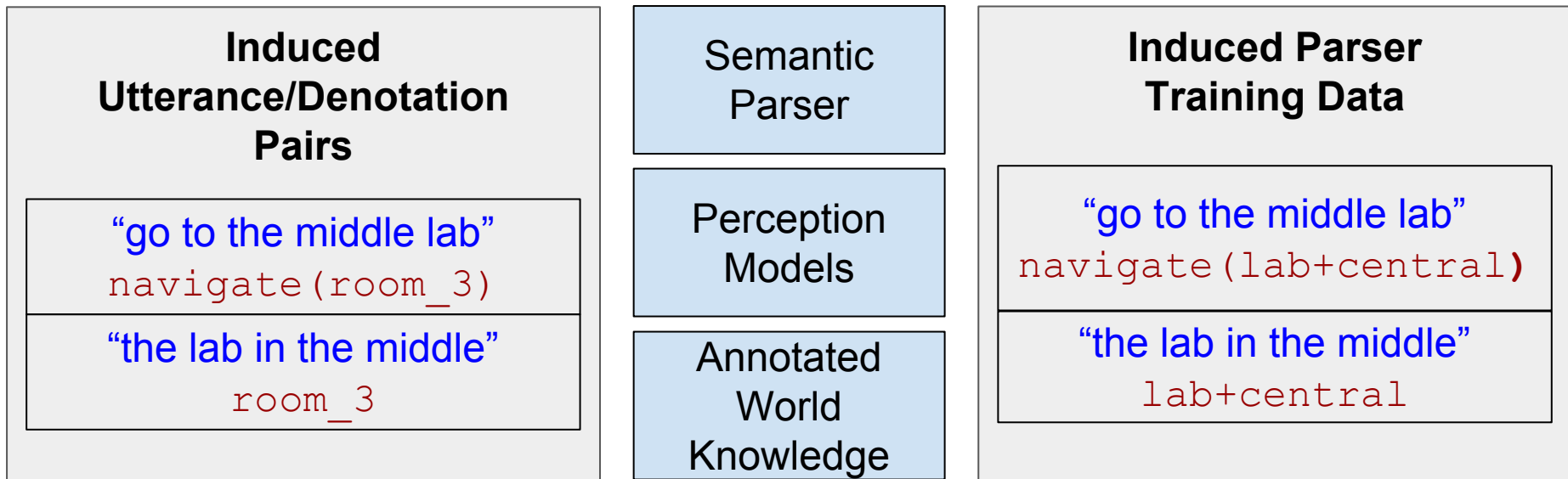
“the lab in the middle”

`room_3`

Natural Language Understanding



Inducing New Training Examples from Dialog



Using Embeddings for Out-of-Vocabulary Words



Induced
Training Pairs



**“deliver
java to bob”**

**Word
Embeddings**

**“deliver
java to bob”**

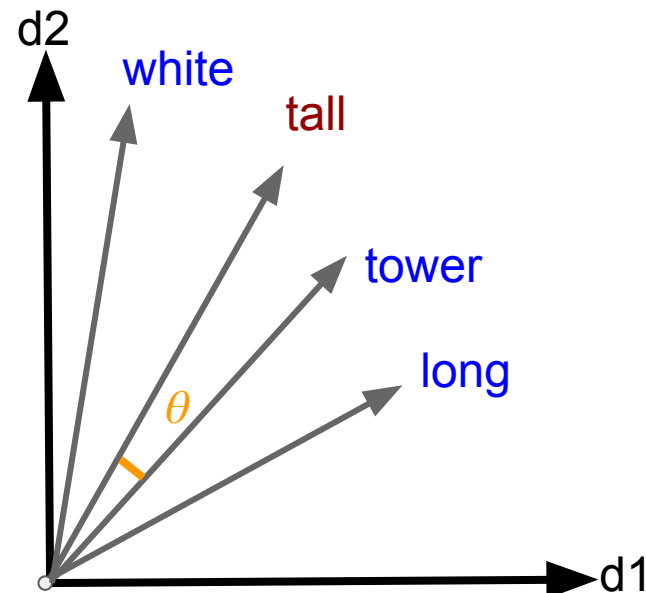
**“deliver” -> “bring”
“java” -> “coffee”**

**Semantic
Parser**

*task: deliver
item: coffee
person: bob*

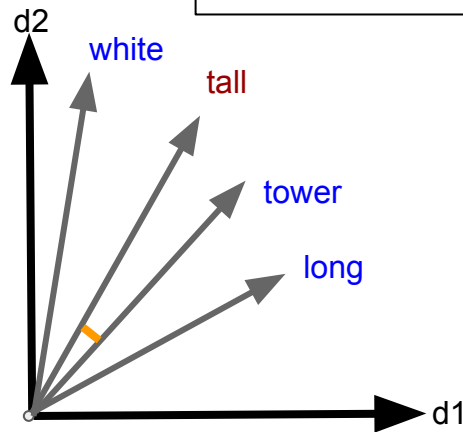
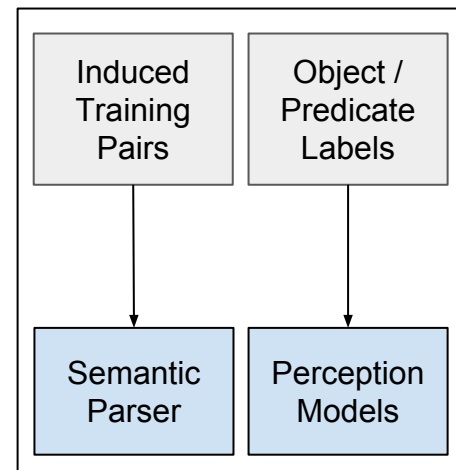
Using Embeddings to Find Perception Words

ROBOT	What should I deliver to this person?
YOU	a tall metal can
ROBOT	I haven't heard the word 'tall' before. Does it refer to properties of things, like a color, shape, or weight?
YOU	yes
ROBOT	Does 'tall' mean the same thing as 'tower'?
YOU	no
ROBOT	Does 'tall' mean the same thing as 'white'?
YOU	no
ROBOT	Does 'tall' mean the same thing as 'long'?
YOU	yes



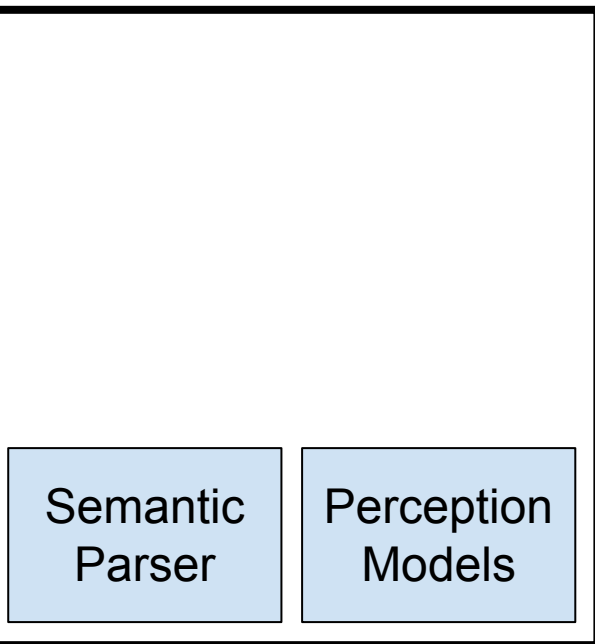
Technical Contributions

- Improve **both parsing and perception** from conversations.
- Use word embeddings to **guide search for synonyms** and **novel perceptual predicates**.

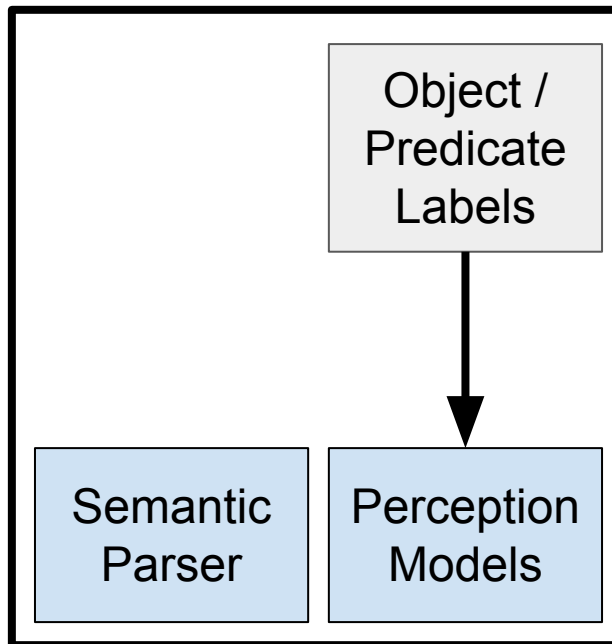


Experiments via Amazon Mechanical Turk

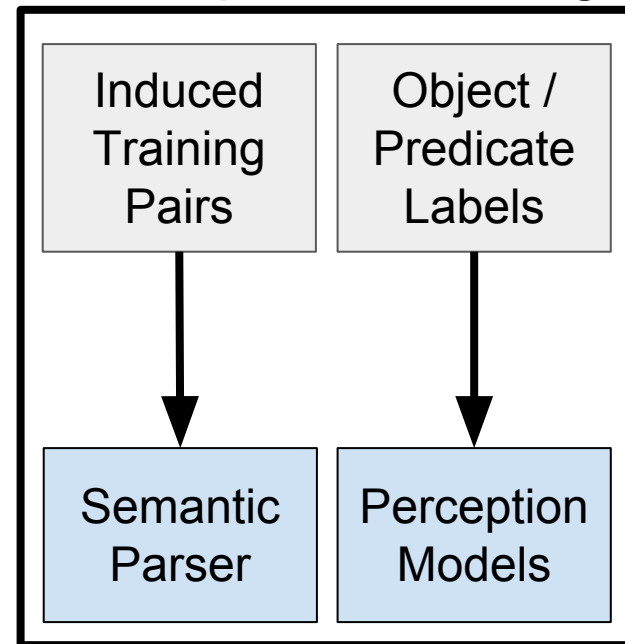
Untrained Baseline



Perception Training



Parsing +
Perception Training



Metric - Semantic F1

$$T_U = \{(\text{action}, \text{deliver}), (\text{patient}, o_2), (\text{recipient}, p_1)\},$$

$$T_G = \{(\text{action}, \text{relocate}), (\text{patient}, o_2), (\text{source}, r_1), (\text{goal}, r_3)\};$$

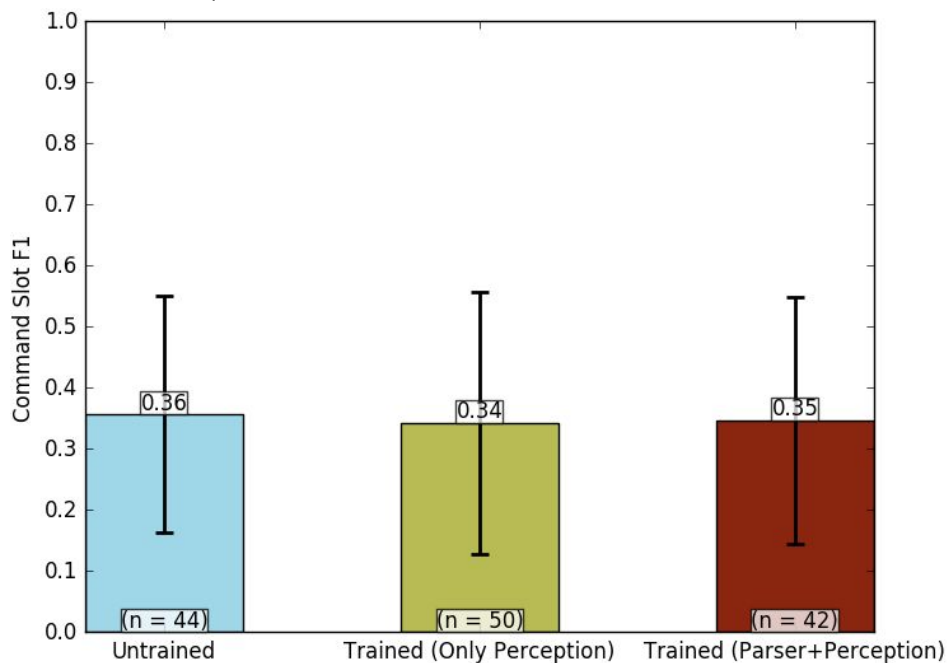
$$\text{precision}(T_U, T_G) = \frac{|T_U \cap T_G|}{|T_U|} = \frac{1}{3},$$

$$\text{recall}(T_U, T_G) = \frac{|T_U \cap T_G|}{|T_G|} = \frac{1}{4},$$

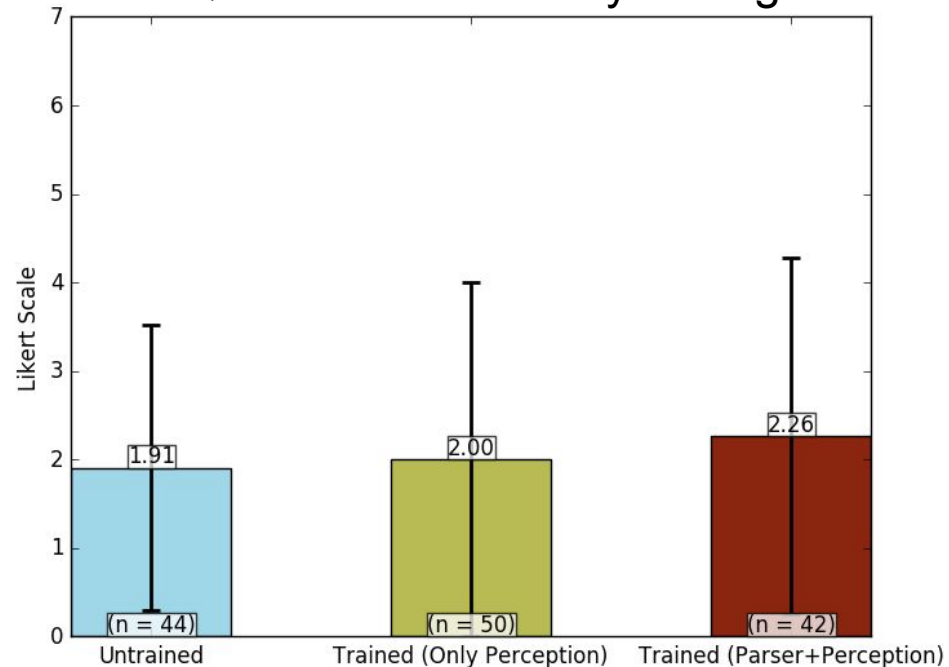
$$f(T_U, T_G) = 2 \cdot \frac{\text{precision}(T_U, T_G) \cdot \text{recall}(T_U, T_G)}{\text{precision}(T_U, T_G) + \text{recall}(T_U, T_G)} = 0.286.$$

Results - Navigation Task

Quantitative - Semantic F1

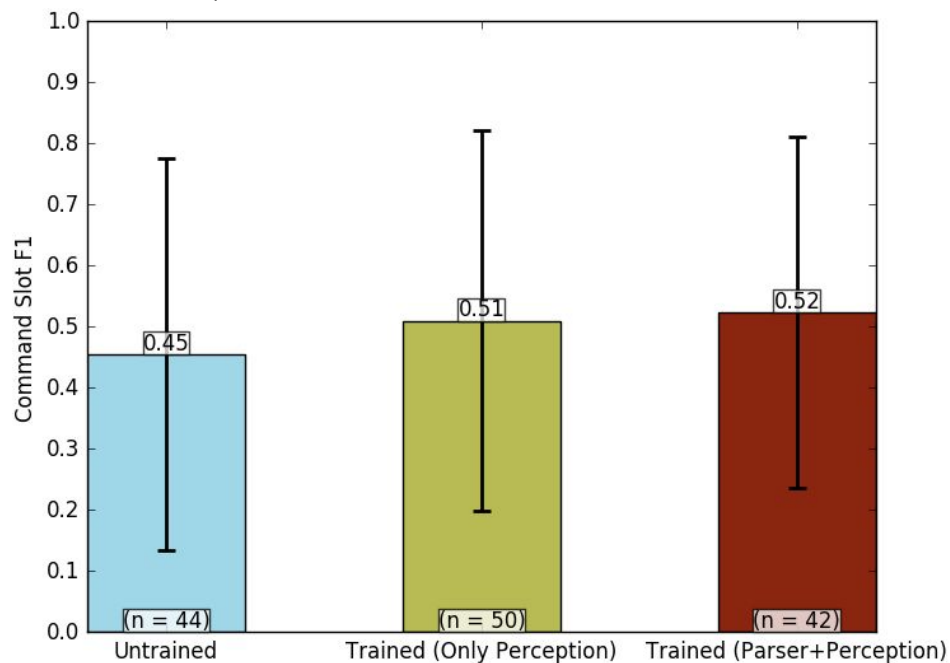


Qualitative - Usability Rating

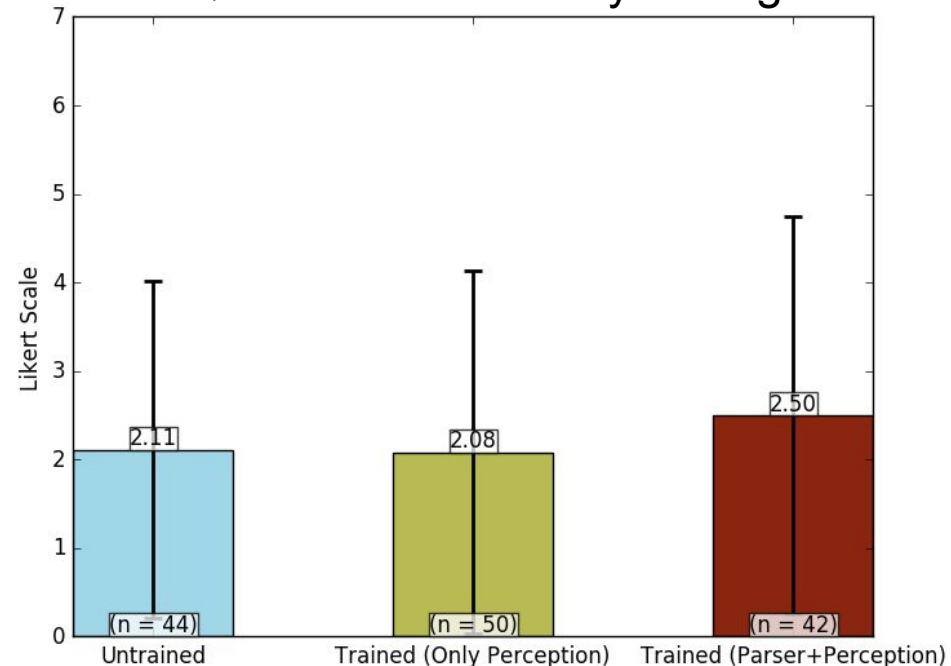


Results - Delivery Task

Quantitative - Semantic F1

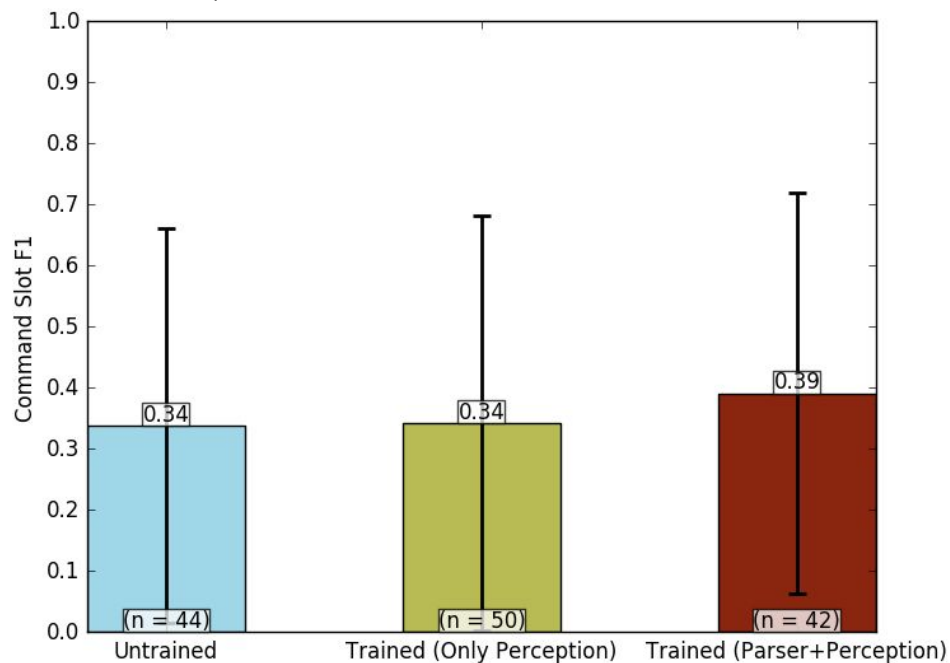


Qualitative - Usability Rating

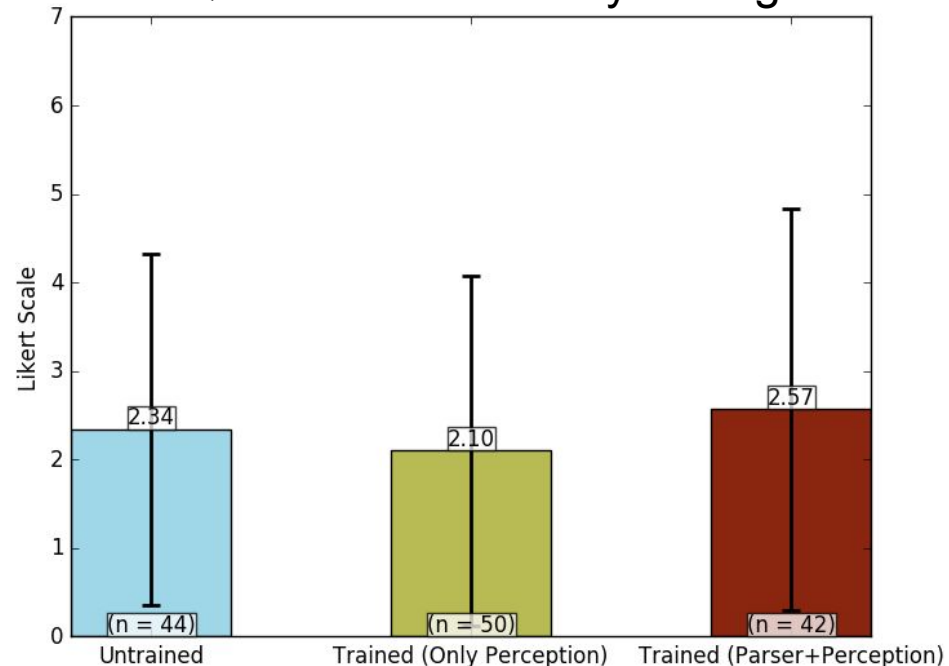


Results - Relocation Task

Quantitative - Semantic F1



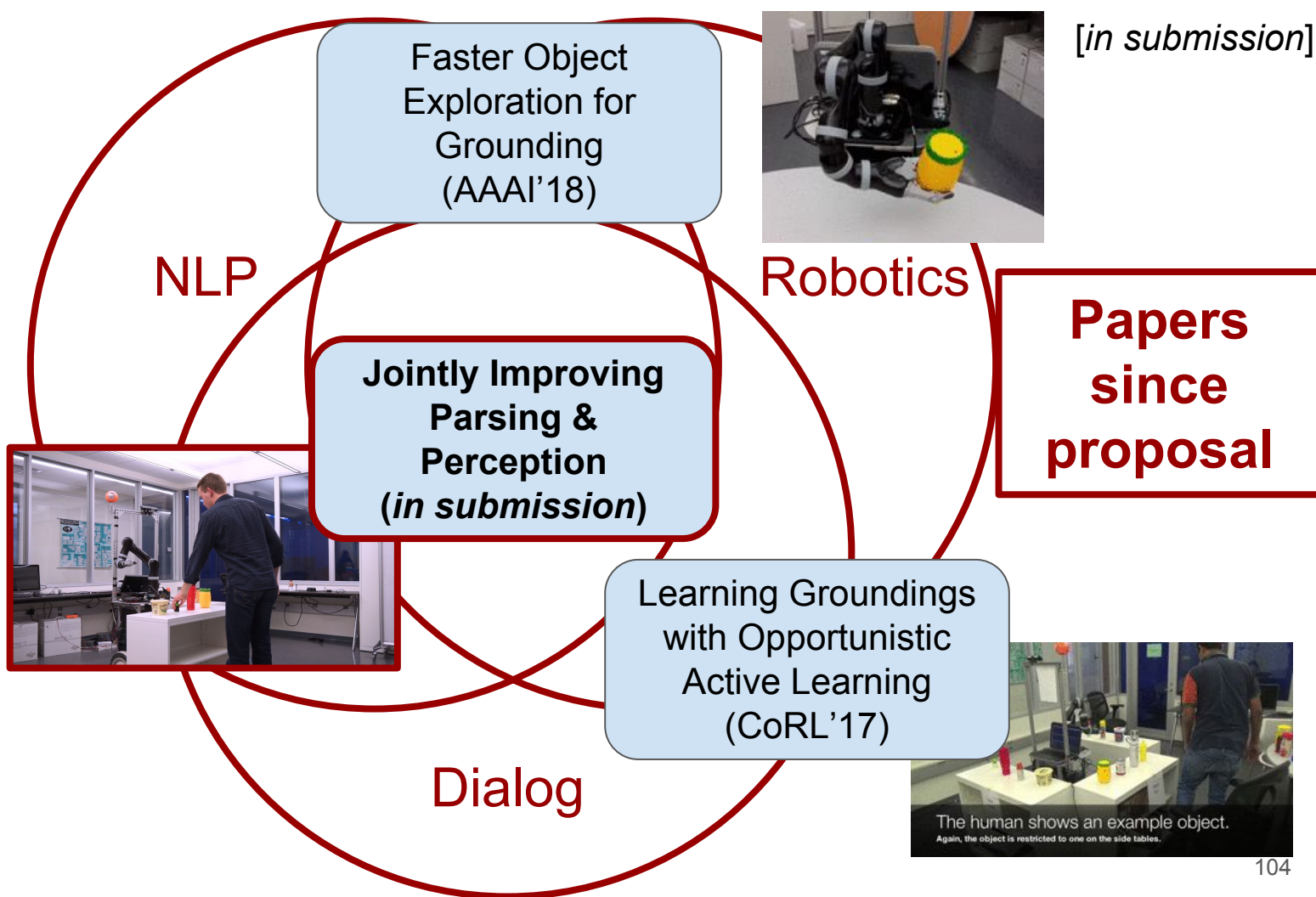
Qualitative - Usability Rating



*[in sub-
mission]*

[in submission]

[in submission]





NLP



Robotics

**Human-
Robot
Dialog**

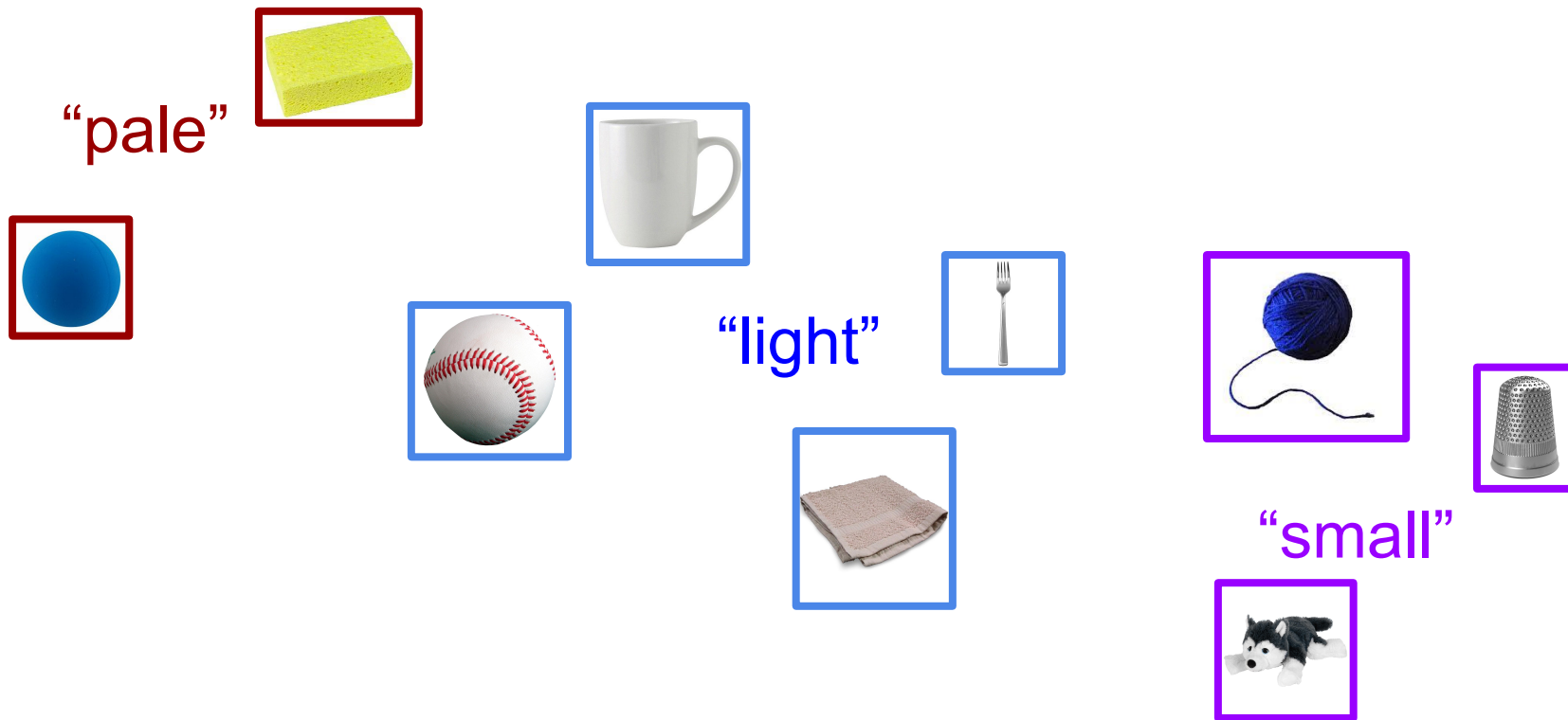
**Next
Directions**



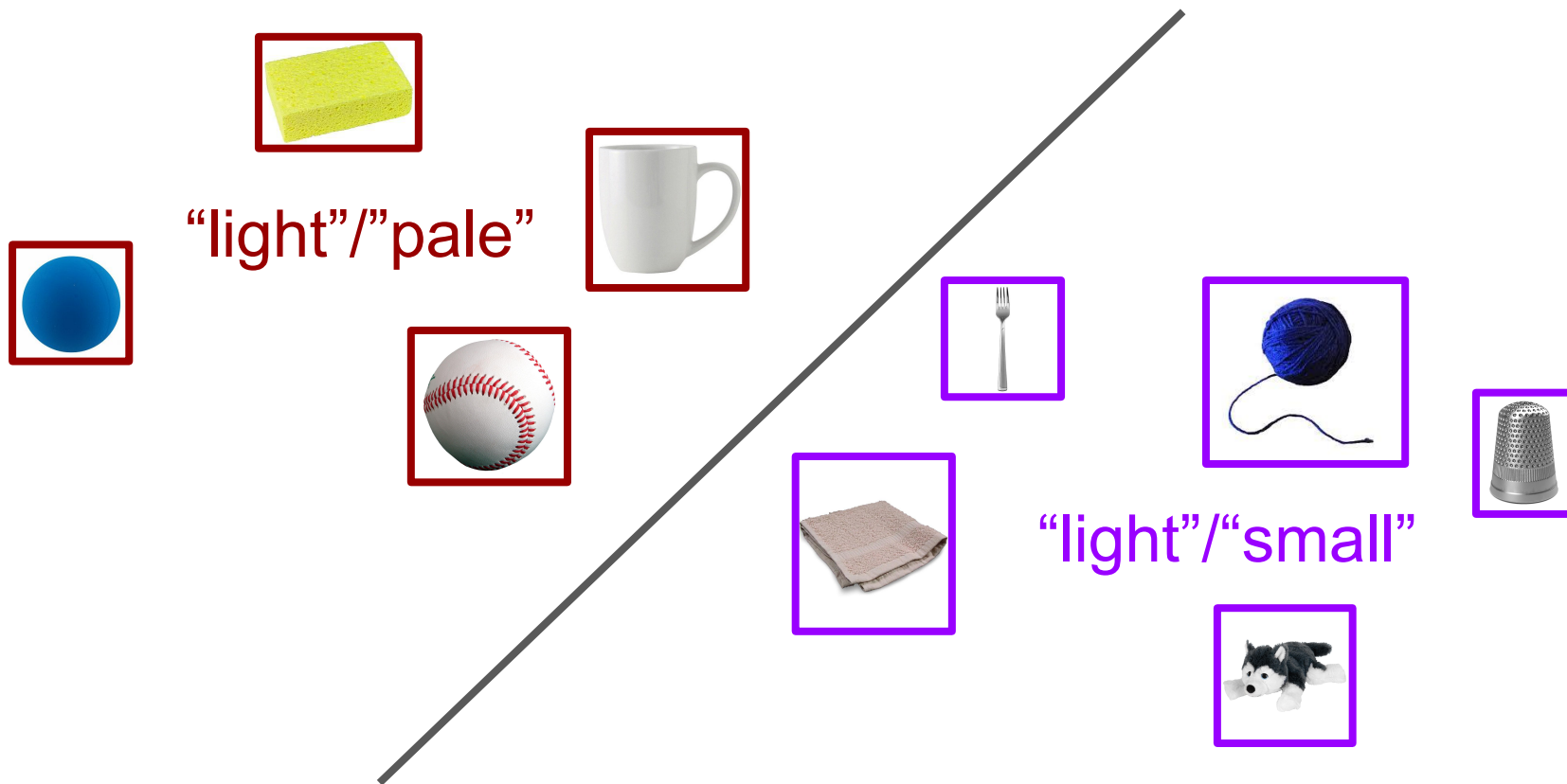
Dialog



Grounded Predicate Synset Induction



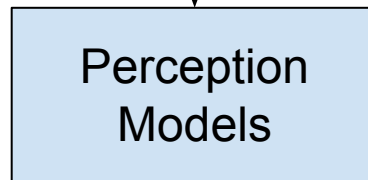
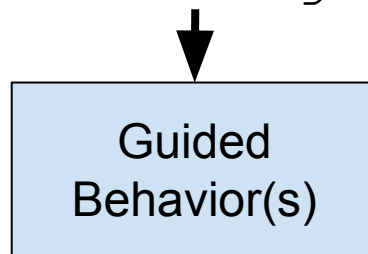
Grounded Predicate Synset Induction



Guided Exploration of New Objects



rattling?



yes / no

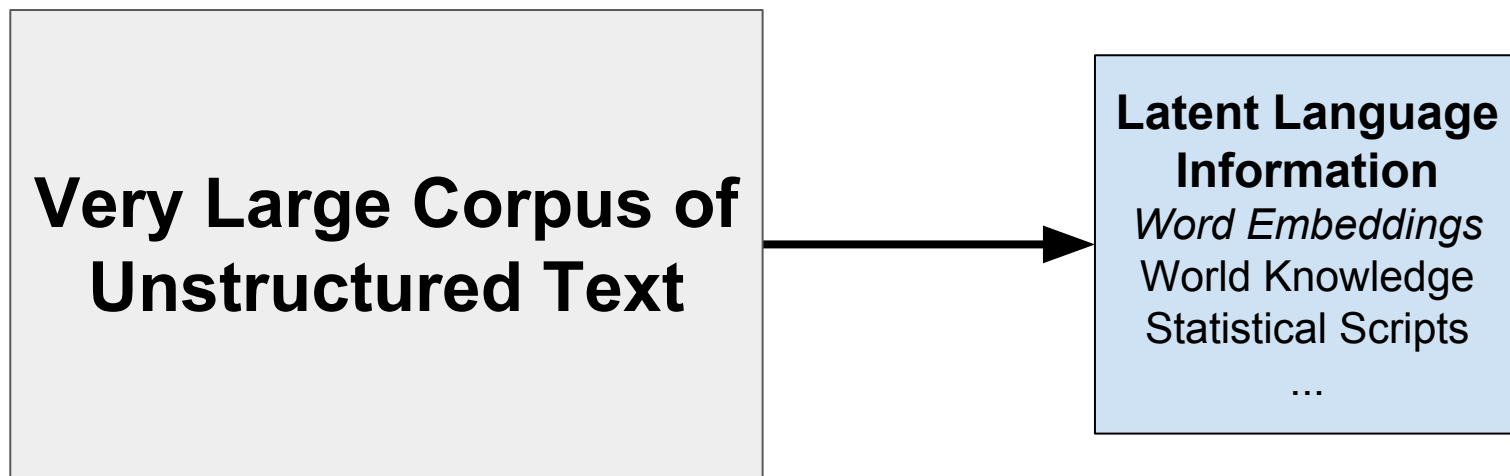


“Move a rattling container from the kitchen to bob’s office.”

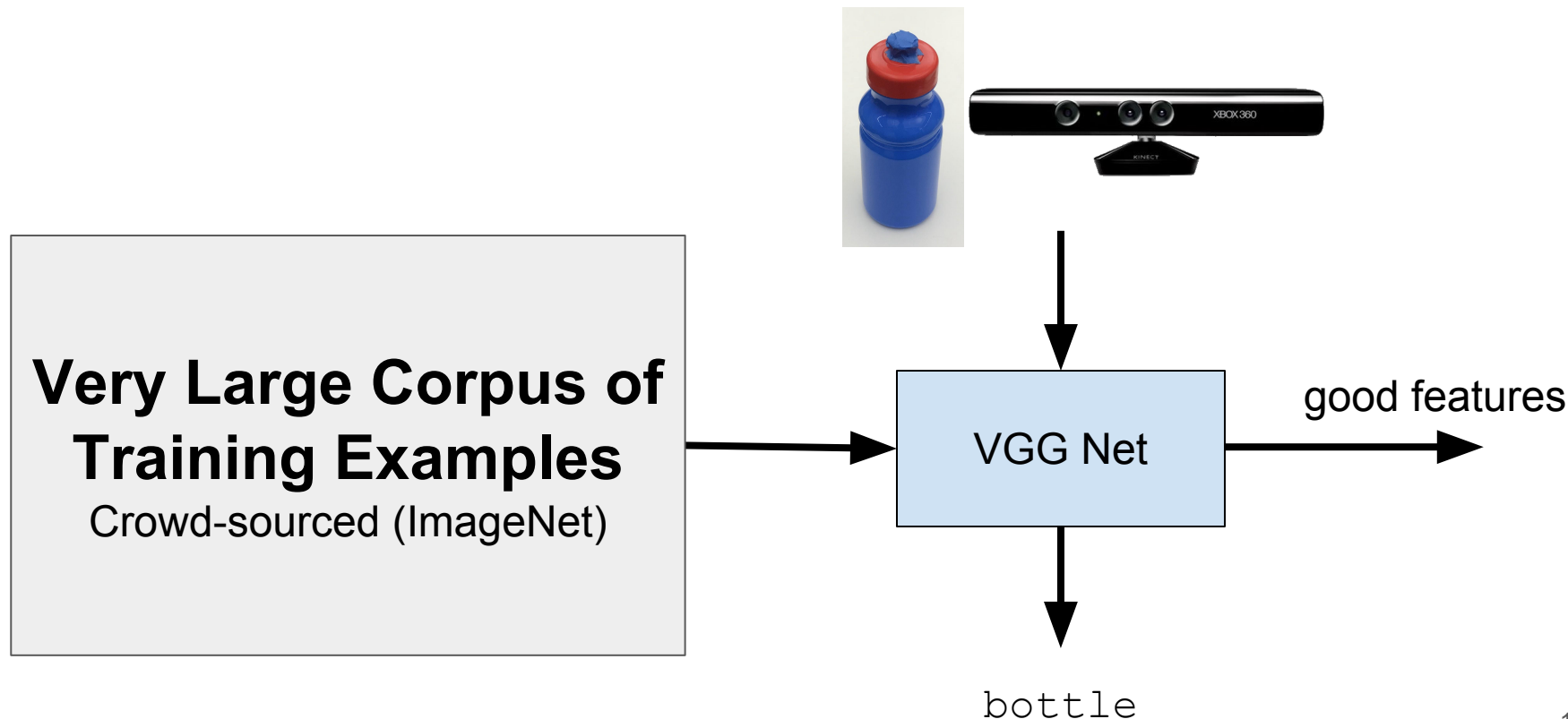
Moving Forward

- The intersection of problems in human-robot dialog is **inherently low-resource**.
- Other parts of NLP, Robotics, and Dialog are not.
- We can **use big data and techniques** from these fields when solving problems in human-robot dialog.

Moving Forward - Using Big Data Where We Can



Moving Forward - Using Big Data Where We Can



Moving Forward - Using Big Data Where We Can



**Corpus of Object
Representations
from Exploratory
Behaviors**

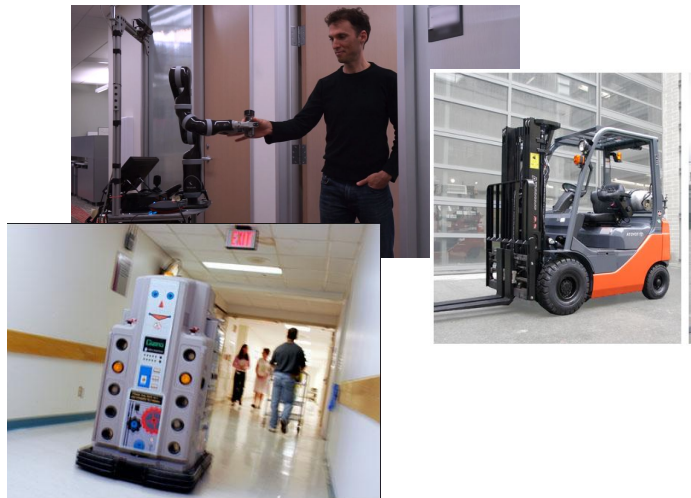


**Latent
Representations**
Autoencoders
GANs
....

good features?

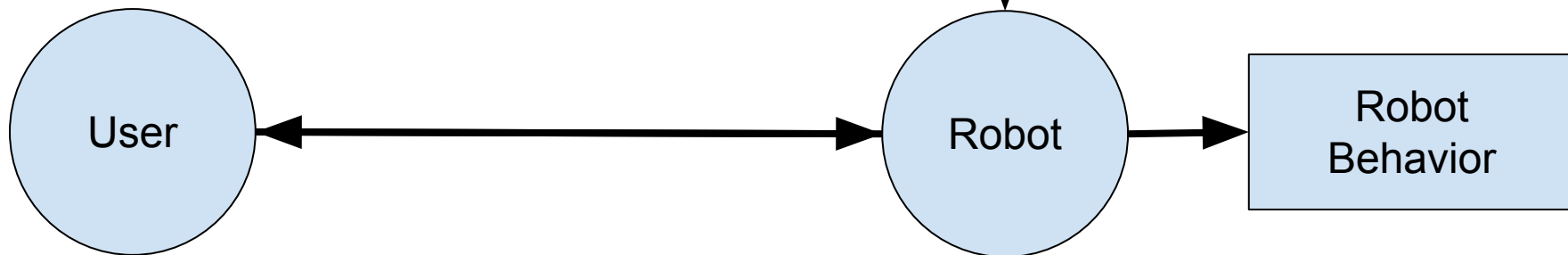
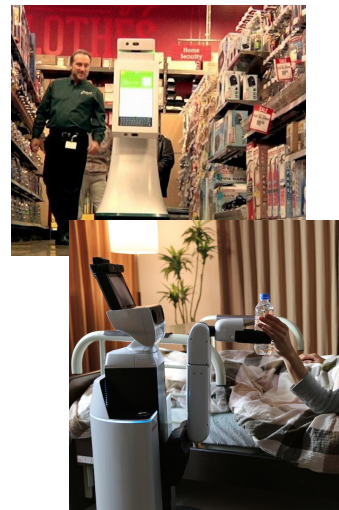


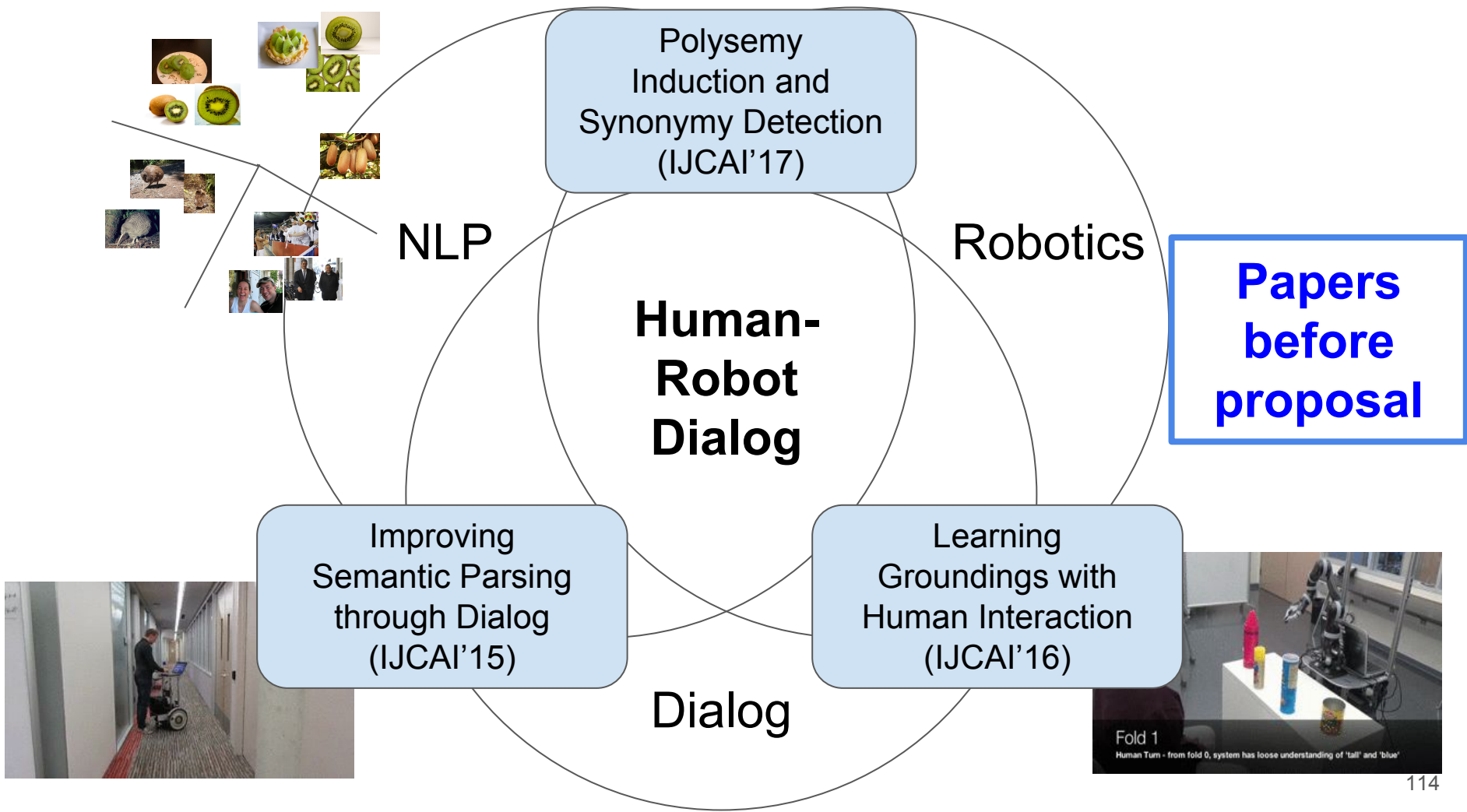
Moving Forward - Transfer Learning

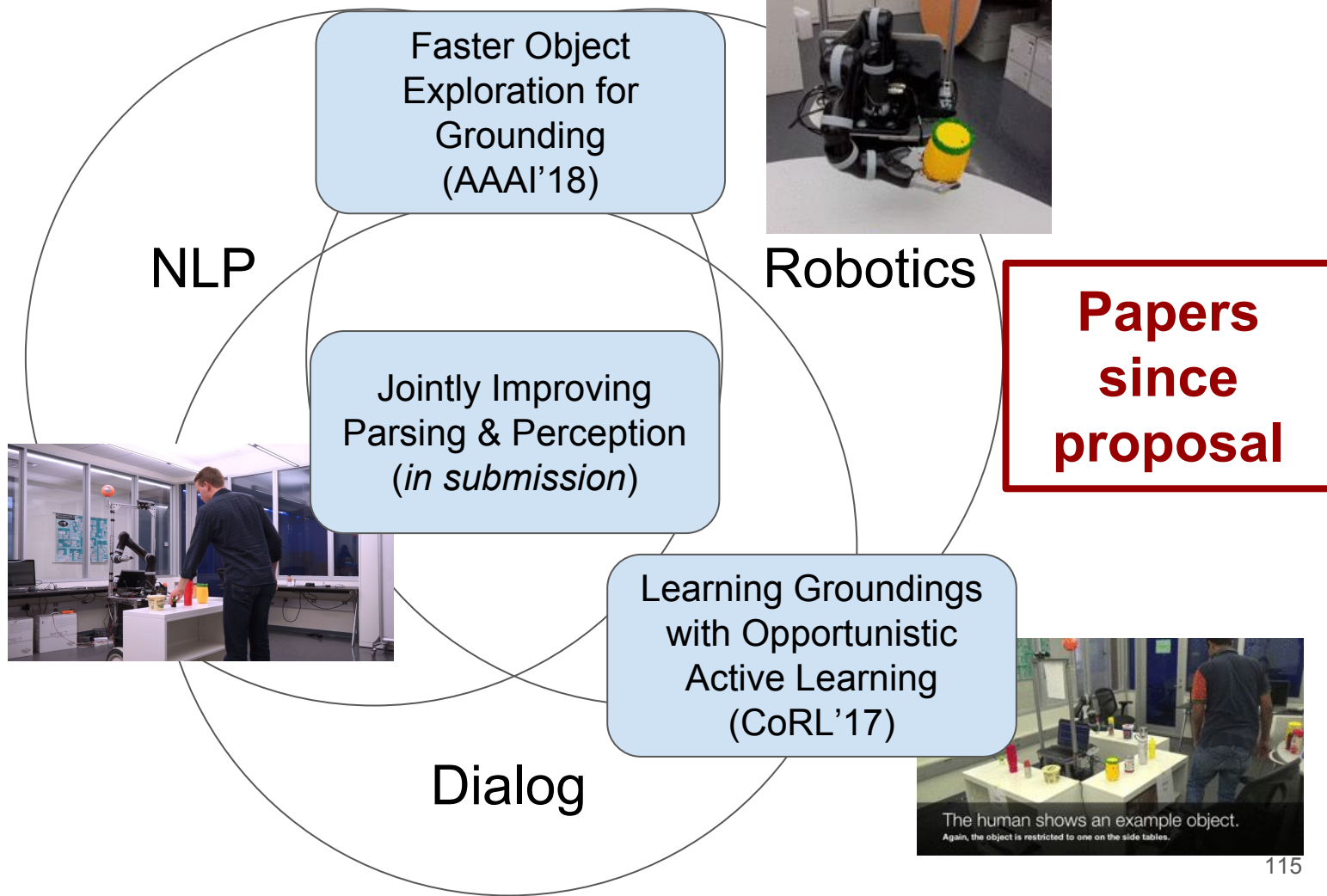


Corpus of Human-Robot Dialogs

Similar domain shared commands
Sharing object representations







Acknowledgments



Ray
Mooney



Peter
Stone

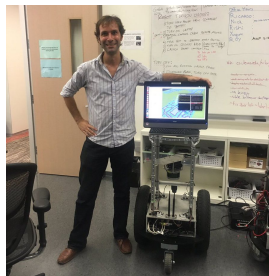


Scott
Niekum

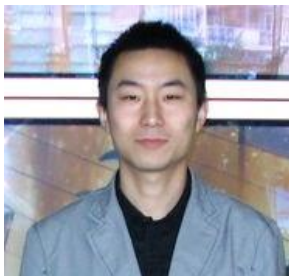


Stefanie
Tellex

Acknowledgments



Jivko
Sinapov



Shiqi
Zhang



Aishwarya
Padmakumar



Piyush
Khandelwal



Rodolfo
Corona



Harel
Yedidsion



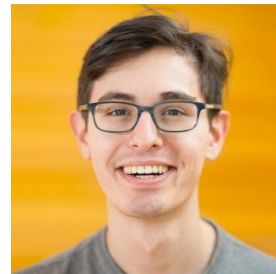
Justin
Hart



Subhashini
Venugopalan



Yuqian
Jiang



Nick
Walker

- *Jointly Improving Parsing and Perception for Natural Language Commands through Human-Robot Dialog.*
Jesse Thomason, Aishwarya Padmakumar, Jivko Sinapov, Nick Walker, Harel Yedidsion, Justin Hart, Peter Stone, Raymond J. Mooney. (in submission)
- *Guiding Exploratory Behaviors for Multi-Modal Grounding of Linguistic Descriptions.*
Jesse Thomason, Jivko Sinapov, Raymond J. Mooney, and Peter Stone. AACL'18.
- *Improving Black-box Speech Recognition using Semantic Parsing.*
Rodolfo Corona, **Jesse Thomason**, and Raymond J. Mooney. IJCNLP'17.
- *Opportunistic Active Learning for Grounding Natural Language Descriptions.*
Jesse Thomason, Aishwarya Padmakumar, Jivko Sinapov, Justin Hart, Peter Stone, and Raymond J. Mooney. CoRL'17.
- *Multi-Modal Word Synset Induction.*
Jesse Thomason and Raymond J. Mooney. IJCAI'17.
- *Integrated Learning of Dialog Strategies and Semantic Parsing.*
Aishwarya Padmakumar, **Jesse Thomason**, Raymond J. Mooney. EACL'17.
- *BWIBots: A platform for bridging the gap between AI and human--robot interaction research.*
Piyush Khandelwal, Shiqi Zhang, Jivko Sinapov, Matteo Leonetti, **Jesse Thomason**, Fangkai Yang, Ilaria Gori, Maxwell Svetlik, Priyanka Khante, Vladimir Lifschitz, J. K. Aggarwal, Raymond Mooney, and Peter Stone. IJRR'17.
- *Learning Multi-Modal Grounded Linguistic Semantics by Playing "I Spy".*
Jesse Thomason, Jivko Sinapov, Maxwell Svetlik, Peter Stone, and Raymond J. Mooney. IJCAI'16.
- *Learning to Interpret Natural Language Commands through Human-Robot Dialog.*
Jesse Thomason, Shiqi Zhang, Raymond J. Mooney, and Peter Stone. IJCAI'15.

Graded Adjectives

- Think of gradation as a form of polysemy
- Semantic parser can use surrounding context
- Re-ranking of parses, as discussed, can help disambiguate

words

“plate”



“heavy”



“mug”



words

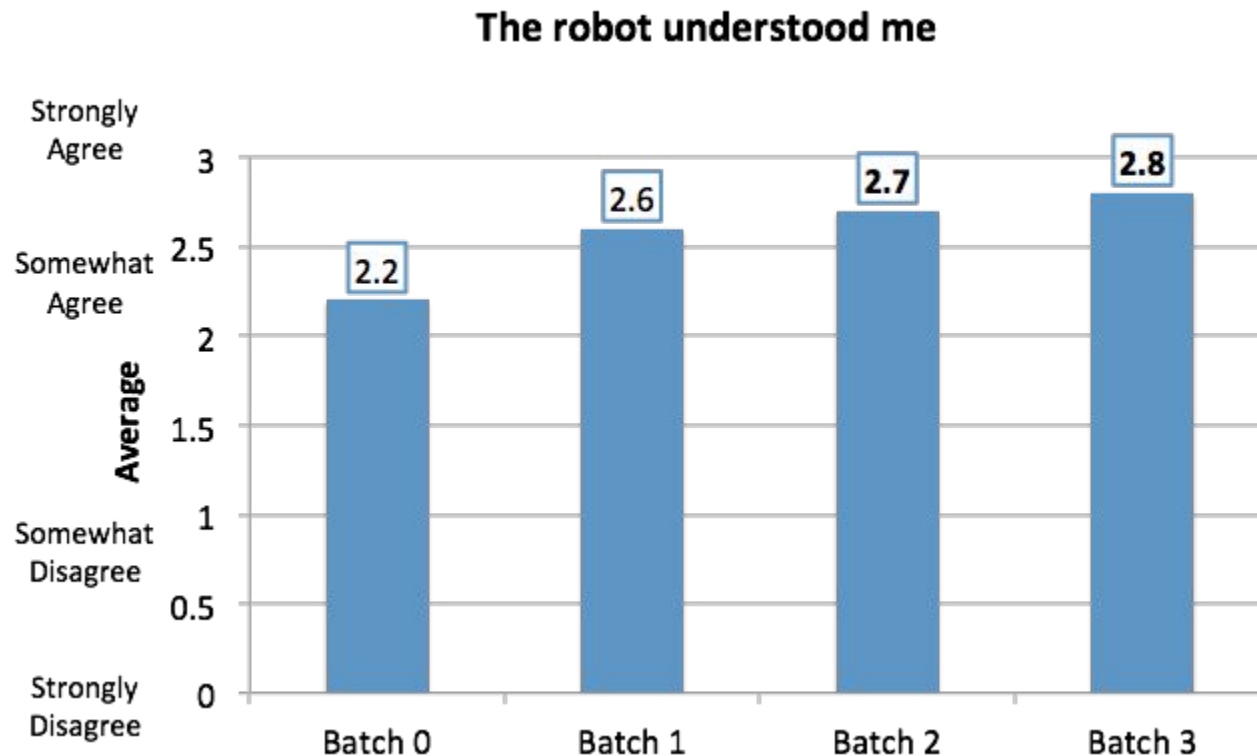
“plate”		plate0
“heavy”		heavy1
		heavy0
“mug”		mug0

predicates

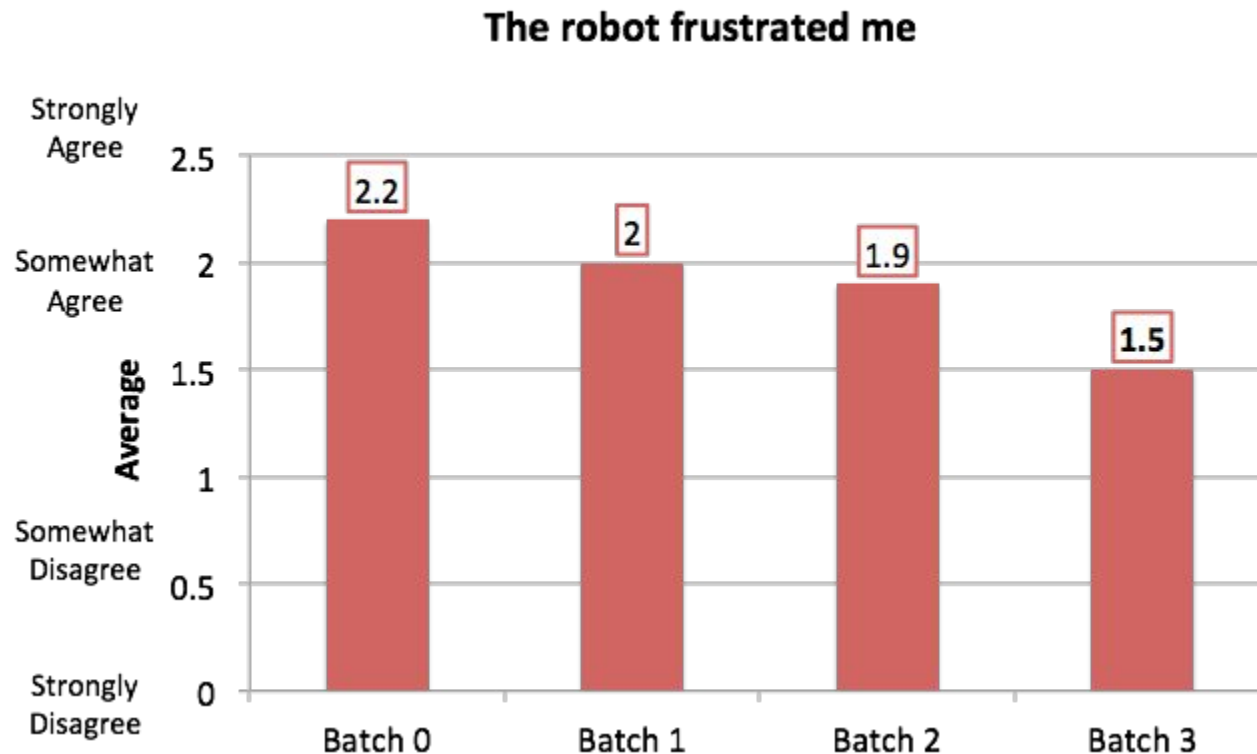
Comparative Adjectives

- E.g. “taller”, “heavier”; take two arguments: obj1, obj2
- Train classifier on the feature differences between obj1, obj2
- Can otherwise be handled with existing architecture
- Superlatives: majority winner object in pairwise comparative

Mechanical Turk Qualitative Results



Mechanical Turk Qualitative Results



Multi-modal Representation

- LSA embedding text features; VGG image features

Bat

“... most of the oldest known, definitely identified bat fossils were already very similar to modern microbats ... ”



Bat

“... a baseball bat is divided into several regions ... ”



Bat

“... about 70% of bat species are insectivores ... ”



Bat

“... hickory has fallen into disfavor over its greater weight, which slows down bat speed ... ”



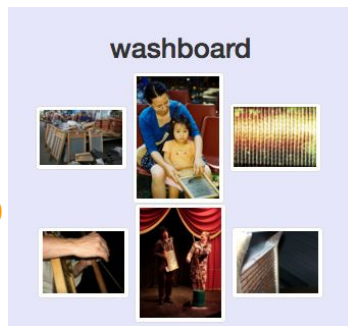
Technical Contributions

- Perform **unsupervised, multi-modal** sense induction and synonymy detection
- Create an ImageNet-like resource **without manual annotation.**



Results

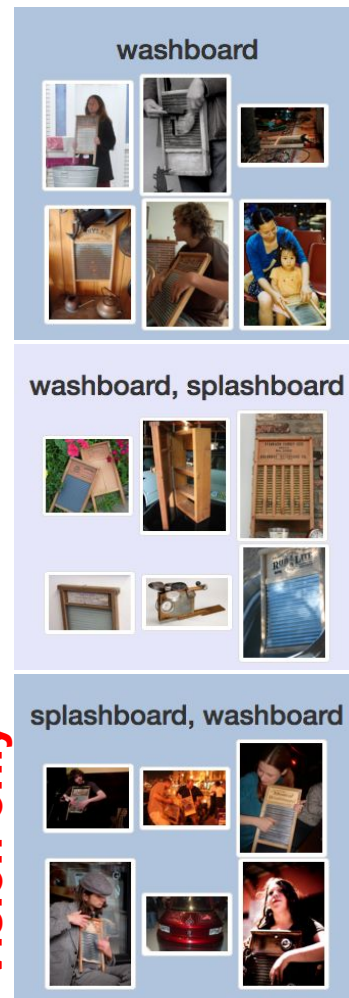
ImageNet



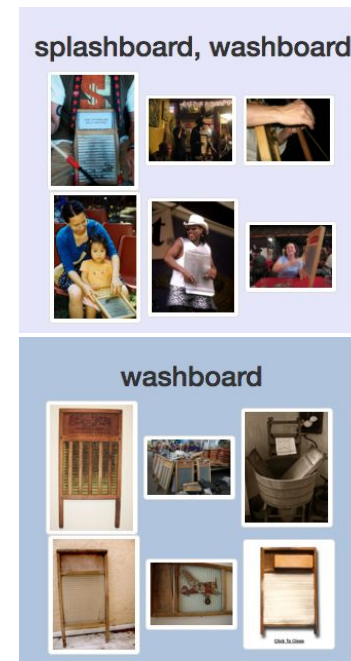
Text-only



Vision-only

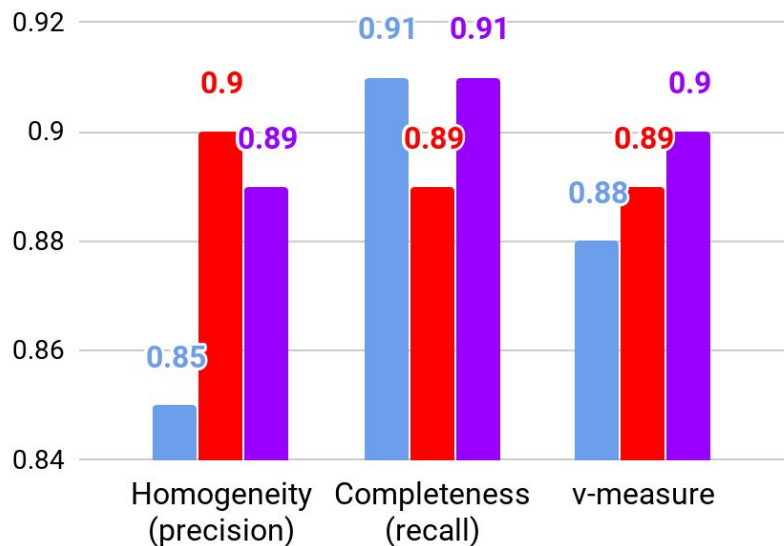


Multi-modal

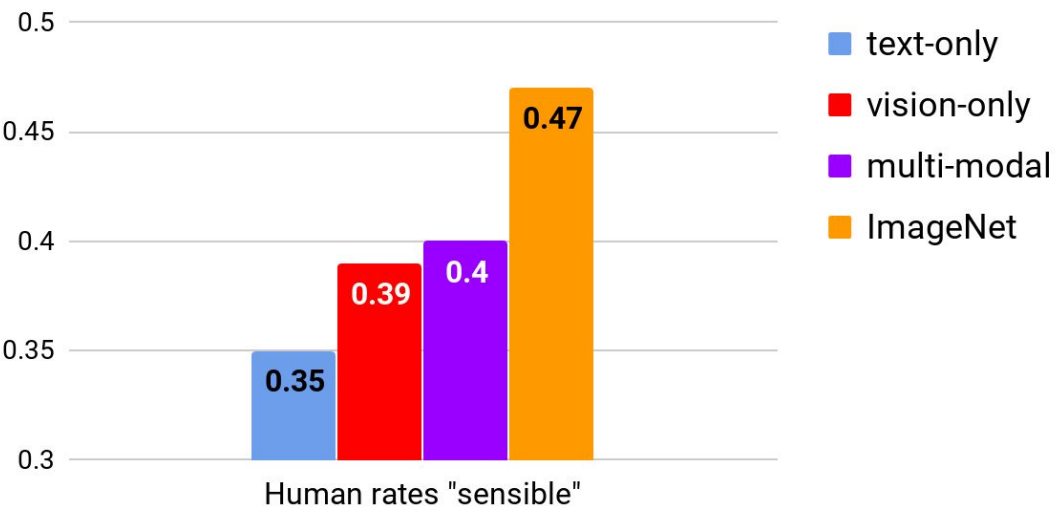


Results

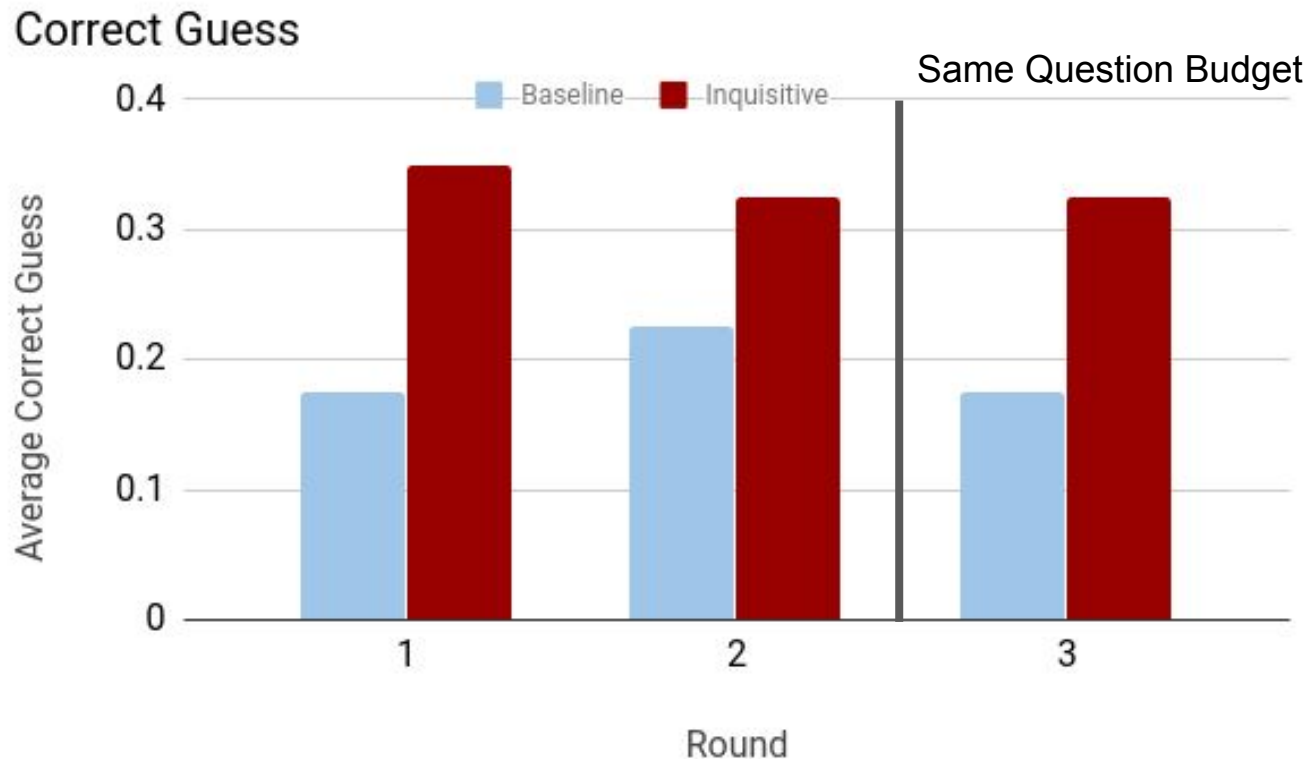
Synset Agreement with ImageNet



Human Evaluation

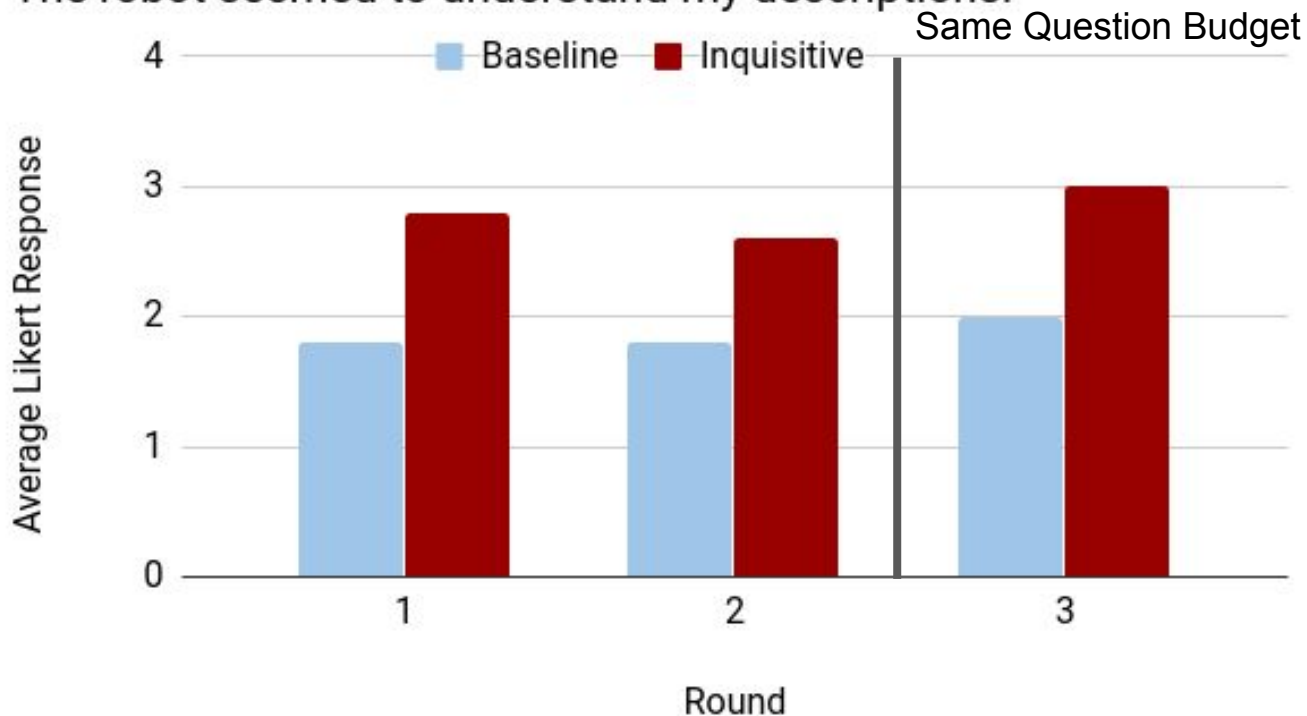


Results - Correct Object Selected



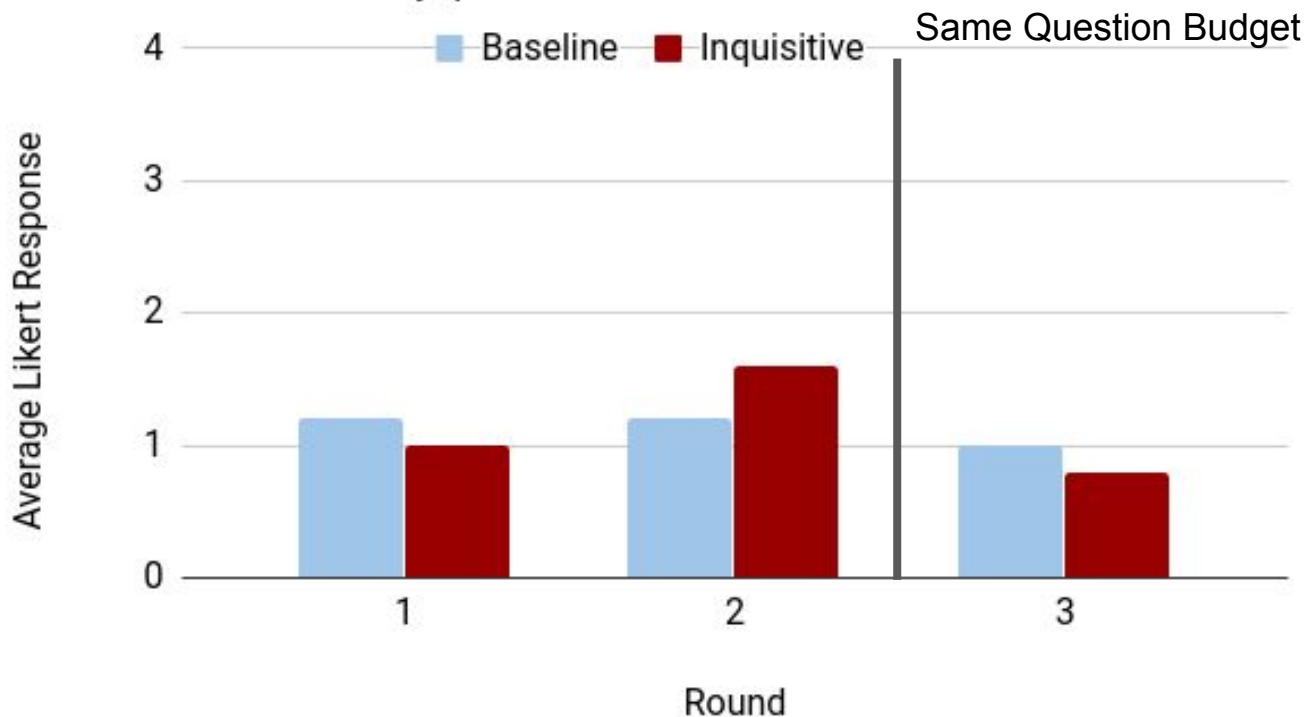
Results - Users Feeling Understood

The robot seemed to understand my descriptions.



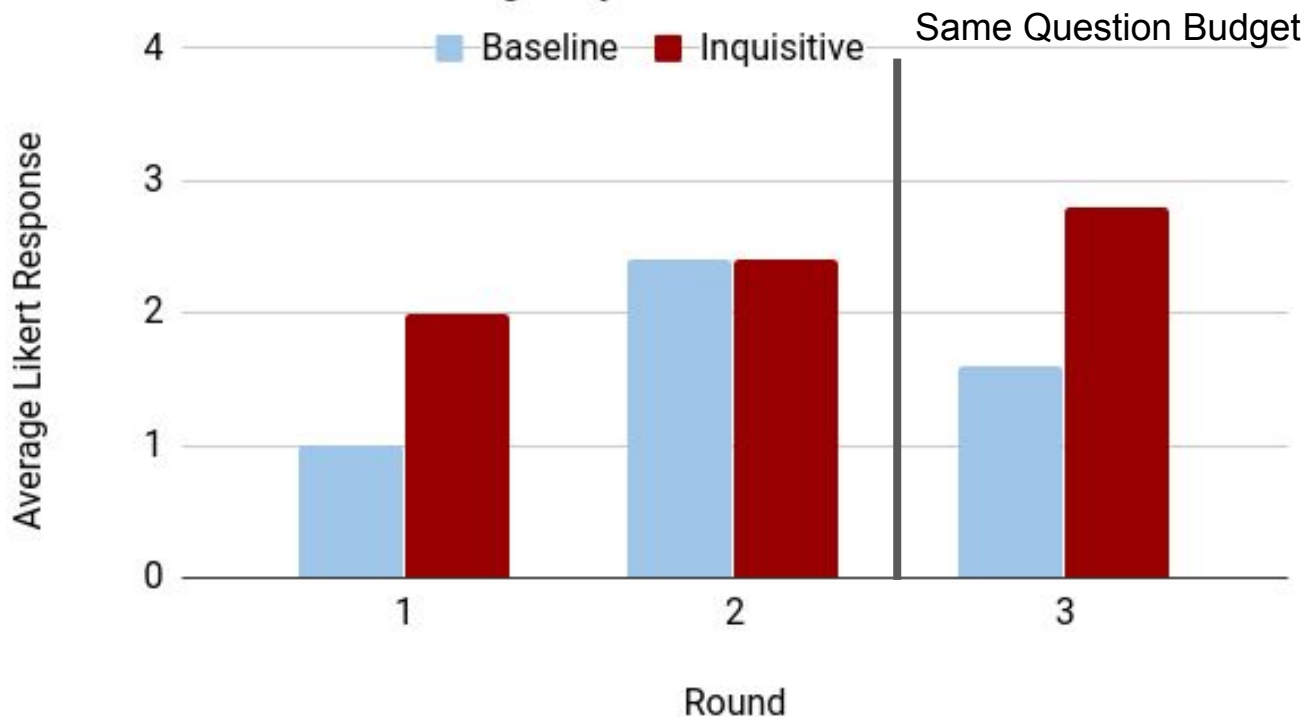
Results - Users Annoyed

The robot asked too many questions.



Results - Viable for Deployment

I would use a robot like this to get objects for me in another room.



Learning from Denotations

- Given utterance-denotation pair, find a semantic form that is plausible for both

(“rattling container”,



)

Learning from Denotations

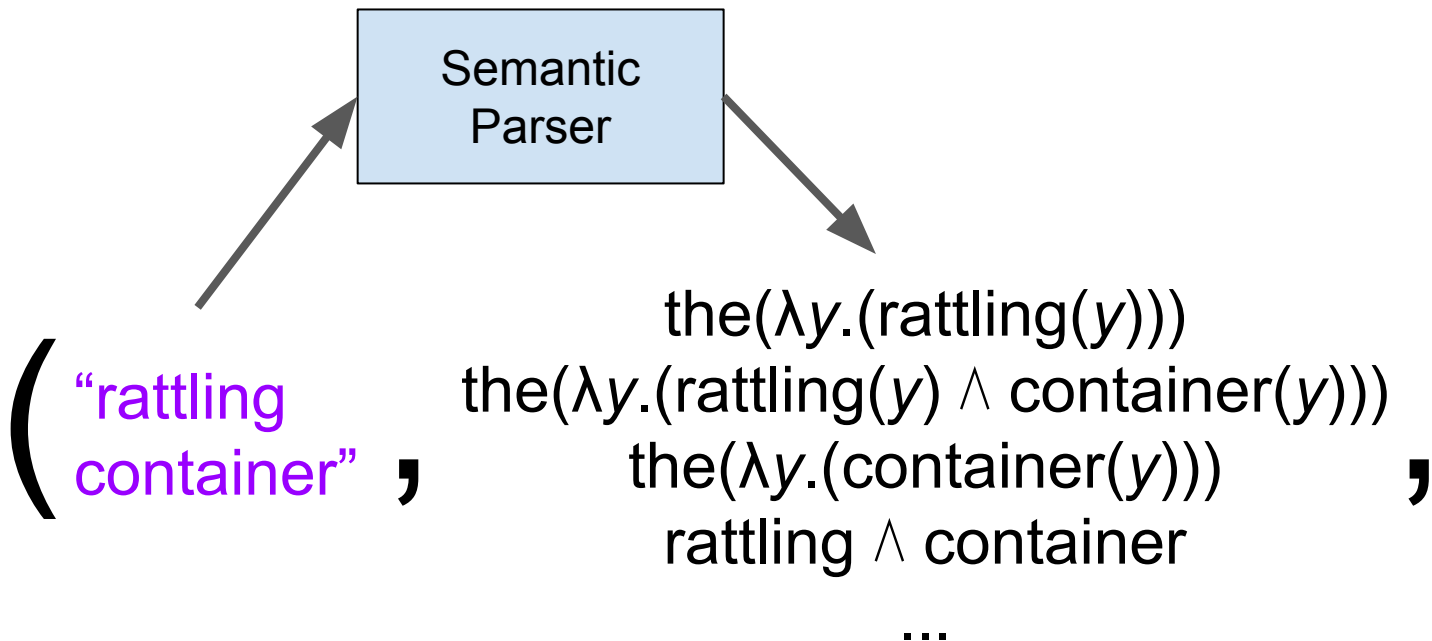
- Use the parser to produce a beam of parses
- Use the grounder to find the denotations of those parses

(“rattling container”,

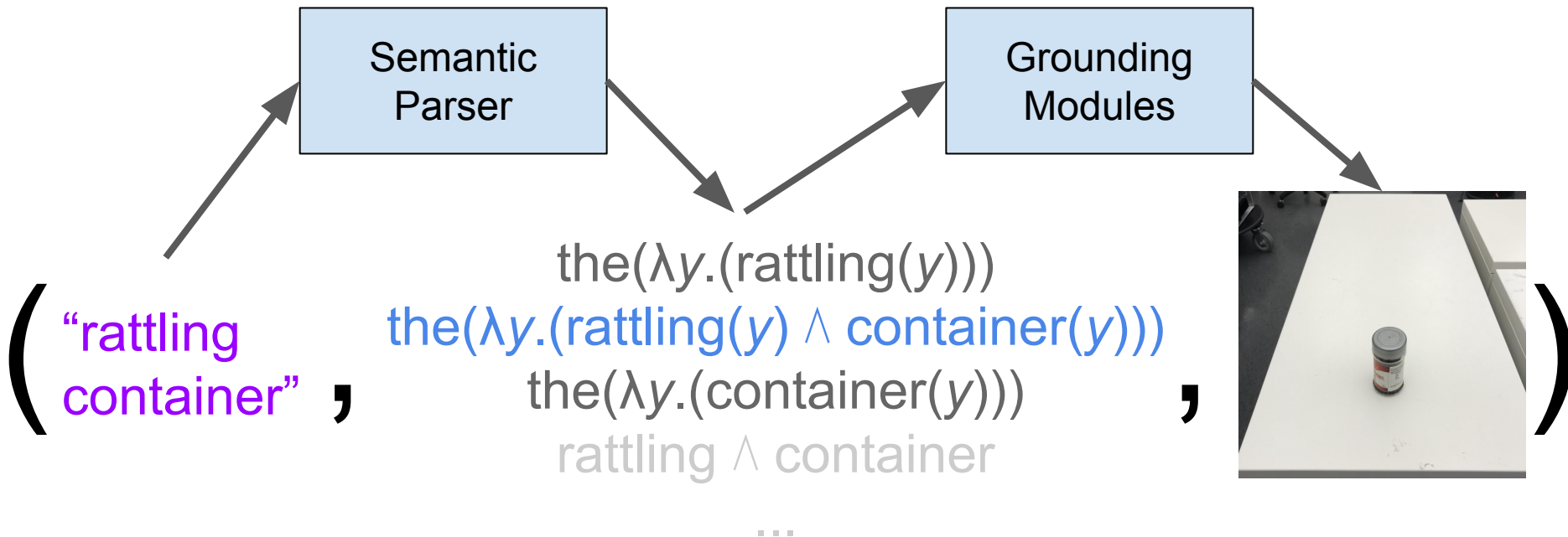


)

Learning from Denotations



Learning from Denotations



Learning from Denotations

(“rattling
container” , $\text{the}(\lambda y. (\text{rattling}(y) \wedge \text{container}(y)))$,



Learning from Denotations

$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{“rattling} \\ \text{container”} \end{array} , \text{ the}(\lambda y.(\text{rattling}(y) \wedge \text{container}(y))) \right)$

[ongoing]

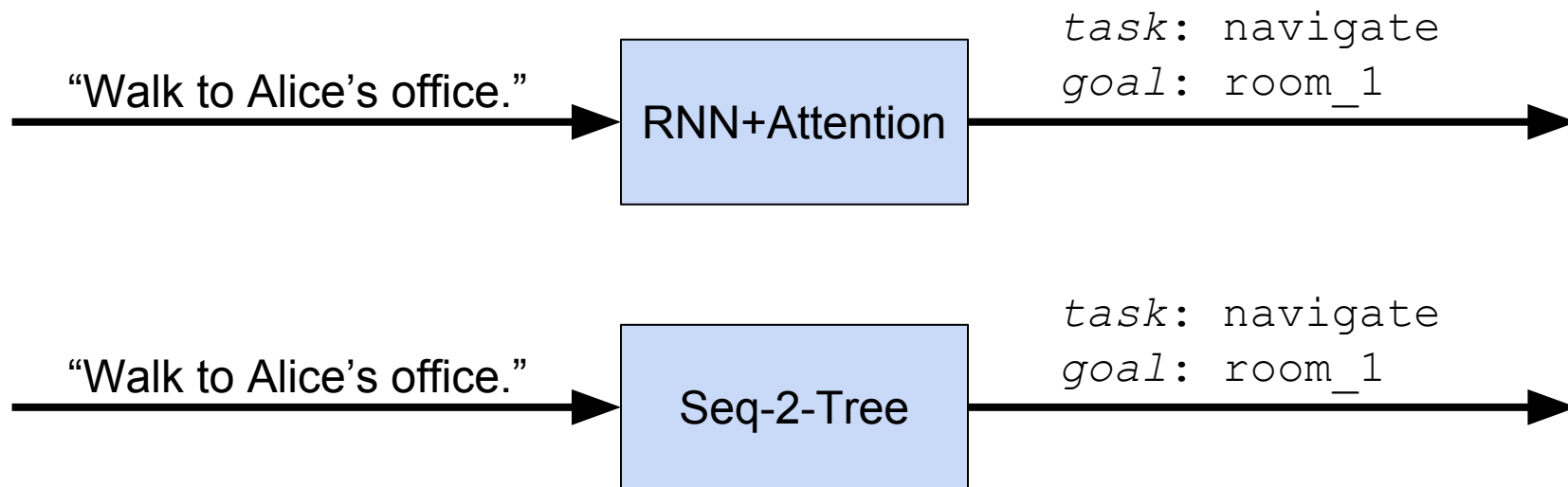


Robot

"You want me to move an item from 3516 to 3510?"

Neural Parsing Methods

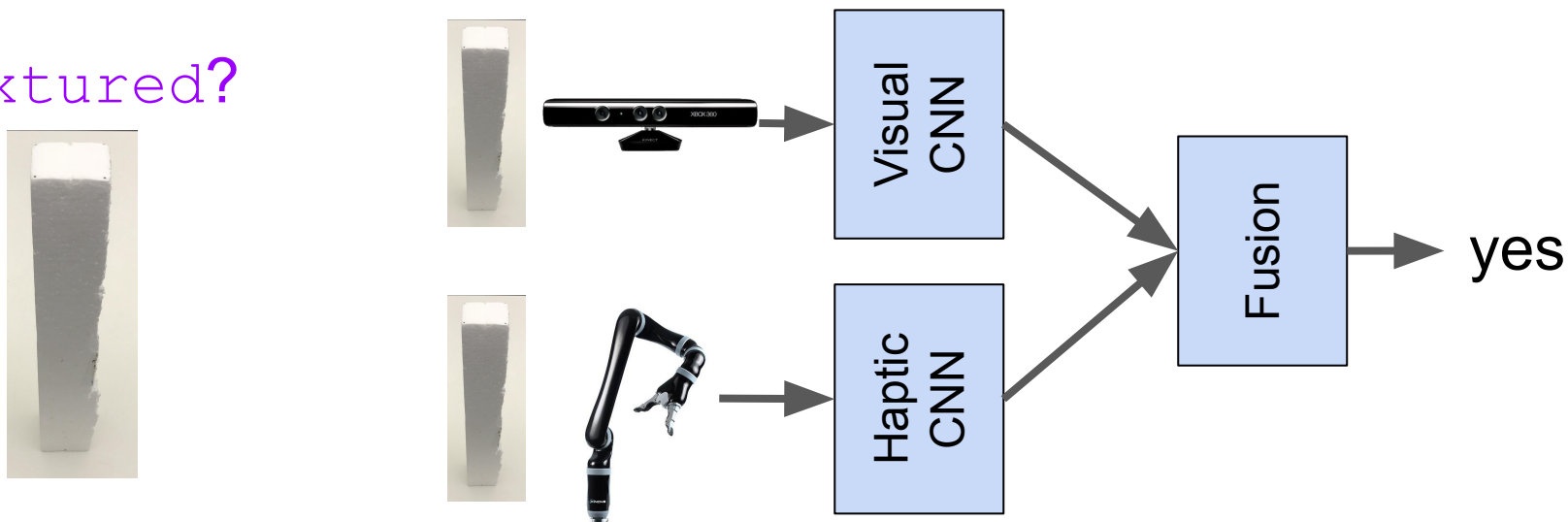
- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) with Attention
- Sequence-to-Tree encoder-decoder networks



Neural Perception Models

- Compress high-dimensional sensorimotor context information using Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

textured?



Embodied Question Answering

- End-to-end deep model for joint parsing and perception

